

NEWS RELEASE

**Spencer B. Merriweather
III**
District Attorney

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6 convicted in Violent Crimes Team trial session

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team tried three defendants and convicted six others who entered guilty pleas during the team's most recent one-week trial session in courtrooms 5110, 5150, and 5170 before the Honorable Matthew J. Osman, the Honorable Peter B. Knight, and the Honorable Donald R. Cureton, Superior Court Judges. Two of the cases were heard by the Honorable Bradley B. Letts, Superior Court Judge, the week prior. The trial session began on February 19, 2024 and concluded on February 26, 2024.

Johnny Burton, Jr., 45, was tried for 1) three counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle in operation and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury found him not guilty.

Donterius Cooper, 33, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury found him not guilty.

Sheldon Reid, 26, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. After a week-long trial, the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict and, as a result, Judge Knight declared a mistrial.

Malachi Ellison, 20, pled guilty to 1) six counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, and 3) second-degree kidnapping. The defendant entered his guilty pleas after a day-long hearing on his motions to suppress evidence. Judge Osman sentenced the defendant to 57-81 months in prison.

Adraine Austin, 53, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Osman sentenced Austin to 95-126 months in prison.

Eduardo Bueso-Lara, 20, pled guilty to common law robbery. Judge Letts sentenced Bueso-Lara to 13-25 months in prison.

Luis Alberto Jimenez, 21, pled guilty to common law robbery. Judge Letts sentenced Jimenez to 13-25 months in prison.

Michael Schwartz, 45, pled guilty to two counts of discharging a firearm into occupied property. The defendant will be sentenced at a later date.

Trayvon Waymyers, 25, pled guilty to misdemeanor fleeing to elude arrest with a motor vehicle. Judge Knight sentenced Waymyers to 45 days in jail; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, follow @CharMeckDA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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