

**District Attorney's  
Office**

State of North Carolina  
26th Prosecutorial District  
Mecklenburg County

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# NEWS RELEASE

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**March 25, 2025**

## **Violent Crimes Team convicts 5 during trial session**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Violent Crimes Team tried two defendants during a trial session that began on March 10, 2025, and ended on March 17, 2025, before the Honorable Craig R. Collins, the Honorable Alan Z. Thornburg, and the Honorable Ted W. McEntire, Superior Court Judges. In addition, four other defendants entered guilty pleas.

Grayland Welch, 40, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and 3) being an armed habitual felon. The jury found him *guilty as charged*. Judge Collins sentenced Welch to two consecutive sentences, totaling 137-186 months in prison.

Herman Kern, 22, was tried for 1) discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle in operation and 2) assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. The jury found him *not guilty*.

Maurice House, 24, filed a motion to suppress certain evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of the defendant's legal rights. House also filed a motion to dismiss the charge, arguing that the crime of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon is unconstitutional. After a hearing, Judge Thornburg denied the motions, and the defendant pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. House was sentenced to 9-20 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Rahmeel Randolph, 32, filed a motion to suppress certain evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of the defendant's legal rights. After a hearing, Judge Thornburg denied the motion, and the defendant pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Randolph was sentenced to 12-24 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Jacob Moffat, 26, filed a motion to suppress certain evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of the defendant's legal rights. After a hearing, Judge Thornburg denied the motion, and the defendant pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) carrying a concealed gun, 3) misdemeanor possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance, and 4) possession of marijuana paraphernalia. Moffat was sentenced to 14-26 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

Matthew Alexi, 27, pled guilty to felony carrying a concealed gun when his case was called for trial. Judge Thornburg sentenced Alexi to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

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

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