District Attorney's Office

State of North Carolina 26th Prosecutorial District Mecklenburg County

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NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual shoplifter convicted during General Felonies Team trial session

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A habitual felon was sentenced to at least 13 years in prison after a jury found him guilty of stealing electronics repeatedly from multiple area stores. The trial was held during a recent trial session led by one of the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's General Felonies teams. The team tried three defendants, while three others pled guilty. The session began on June 23, 2025, and concluded on July 2, 2025. It was held in courtrooms 5110 and 5170 before the Honorable Sally Kirby-Turner and the Honorable Alan Z. Thornburg, Superior Court Judges.

Robert Brown, 56, was tried for 1) felony larceny, 2) three counts of habitual larceny, 3) two counts of larceny by removing, destroying, or deactivating a component of an antishoplifting or inventory control device, and 4) being a habitual felon. The jury found him *guilty as charged*. Following the jury's verdict, Brown admitted his habitual felon status. Judge Kirby-Turner sentenced him to 160-204 months in prison.

On three separate occasions between June 25, 2024 - July 16, 2024, Robert Brown stole merchandise from a Best Buy location in Matthews. Surveillance footage from the store showed Brown removing sensors from the electronic devices before each theft. The merchandise totaled more than \$3,700. At the time of the thefts, Brown's identification was unknown to law enforcement.

On July 9, 2024, loss prevention officers from the Target located on Albemarle Road in Charlotte reported watching Brown use a pair of scissors to cut "spider security wire" off electronic devices. Officers with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department stopped Brown before he could leave and arrested him. They recovered the scissors from his back pocket. Within three hours of his release from jail for this incident, Brown returned to the Best Buy in Matthews and committed a larceny while still wearing the same clothing.

Denise Dunlap, 50, was tried for 1) driving while impaired, 2) possession of methamphetamine, and 3) possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana. At the close of the State's evidence, the State dismissed the possession with intent to sell or deliver marijuana charge. The jury found Dunlap *guilty* of driving while impaired and *not guilty* of possession of methamphetamine. Judge Thornburg sentenced her to 6 months in jail; that sentence was suspended pending her successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As

conditions of the probation, Dunlap must complete 72 hours of community service and a substance abuse assessment.

Mark Chism, 40, was tried for obtaining property by false pretense. The jury found him *not guilty*.

Detrick Williams, 43, pled guilty to two counts of felony obstruction of justice. Judge Kirby-Turner sentenced him to 14-26 months in prison.

Santino Murphy, 28, pled guilty to 1) felony fleeing to elude arrest with a motor vehicle and 2) possession with intent to sell or deliver cocaine. Judge Kirby-Turner sentenced him to 6-17 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Barry Misenheimer, 59, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Judge Thornburg sentenced him to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

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