

**District Attorney's
Office**

State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

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NEWS RELEASE

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Violent Habitual Felon sentenced to life in prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Daven Fetherson was sentenced to spend the rest of his life in prison after a jury found him guilty of trafficking fentanyl and multiple other charges. His case was among several prosecuted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's General Felony Team during their latest trial session. The proceedings were held from February 2, 2026, to February 11, 2026, in courtrooms 5110 and 5370, before the Honorable George C. Bell and the Honorable Matt J. Osman, Superior Court Judges.

Daven Fetherson, 48, was tried for 1) felony flee to elude arrest with a motor vehicle, 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 3) trafficking in fentanyl by possession, and 4) trafficking in fentanyl by transportation. After deliberating for approximately 20 minutes, the jury found him *guilty as charged*. Following the guilty verdict, the jury further considered the State's evidence of Fetherson's criminal history and found that he was a Violent Habitual Felon. As required by law, Judge Osman sentenced Fetherson to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

On the afternoon of June 1, 2021, detectives with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department were looking for a gray Jeep Cherokee in connection with an unrelated investigation. They saw the Cherokee, which was being driven by Daven Fetherson, on Sunset Rd. Officers attempted to stop Fetherson, but he fled recklessly, driving into oncoming traffic and onto front lawns of residences while traveling at speeds more than 15 mph over the speed limit. Officers pursued Fetherson who eventually turned off Sunset Rd. and onto the on ramp of I-77 South. He then pulled off to the side of the road, exited the vehicle on the passenger side, and fled on foot into the woods. He was apprehended by officers after a short foot pursuit. In his pockets, detectives found a trafficking amount of fentanyl [1], a magazine from a .45 caliber Glock 21 handgun, and approximately \$2,000 in cash. They also found a .45 caliber Glock 21 handgun [2] on the front passenger seat of the Cherokee.

Jaelon Jones, 29, was tried for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The jury found him guilty as charged. Judge Bell sentenced him to 17-30 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As a condition of the probation, Jones must serve a split sentence of 60 days in jail.

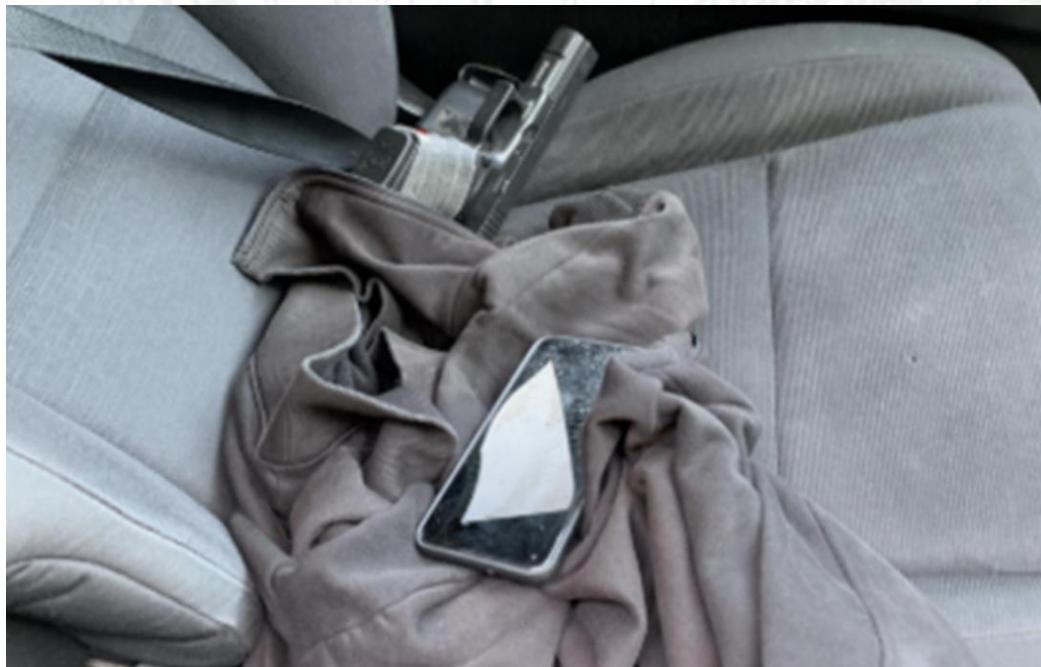
Brian Phillips, 46, pled guilty to two counts of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Bell sentenced him to 23-40 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending the defendant's successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation.

Exhibits

A trafficking amount of fentanyl found in Daven Fetherson's pants pocket after he was apprehended.



A .45 caliber Glock 21 handgun on the front passenger seat of the Cherokee Fetherson was driving.



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