

NEWS RELEASE

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Trials and guilty pleas send violent criminals to prison, April 19-23

The week of April 19, 2010, the Crimes Against Persons Team conducted three jury trials in Mecklenburg County Superior Court in two courtrooms.

The first trial was of Anthony Caldwell, age 26, for (1) possession of a firearm by a felon, (2) carrying a concealed weapon, (3) misdemeanor breaking or entering and (4) for his status as a habitual felon. The jury returned a verdict of guilty on possession of a firearm by felon, carrying a concealed weapon, and misdemeanor breaking or entering. The defendant then admitted his status as a habitual felon. The Honorable Christopher M. Collier, Superior Court Judge, sentenced Caldwell to 93-121 months in prison.

The second trial was of Martin Mills, age 25, for (1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, (2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, and (3) first degree kidnapping. The jury returned a verdict of guilty on robbery with a dangerous weapon and first degree kidnapping. The jury found Mills not guilty of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. The Honorable Calvin E. Murphy, Superior Court Judge, sentenced Mills to 167-210 months in prison.

The third trial was of a defendant whose name is being withheld since the case is still pending. The defendant was tried for a robbery offense. The jury deliberated for several hours but could not reach a verdict. The Honorable Christopher M. Collier, Superior Court Judge, declared a mistrial.

Wonezell Britt, age 19, entered a guilty plea prior to his trial. Britt pled guilty to assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Judge Murphy sentenced Britt to 20-33 months in prison suspended for 36 months supervised probation with twelve days in jail.

Michael Morgan, age 25, entered a guilty plea prior to his trial. Morgan pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Collier sentenced Morgan to 82-108 months in prison.

Juan Nunez, age 21, entered a guilty plea prior to his trial. Nunez pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Judge Collier sentenced Nunez to 25-39 months in prison.

Carlos Ortega, age 24, entered a guilty plea prior to his trial. Ortega pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with dangerous weapon. Judge Collier sentenced Ortega to 25-39 months in prison.

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