

NEWS RELEASE

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Juries' guilty verdicts send 3 habitual felons to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Three juries' guilty verdicts sent three habitual felons to prison January 20-23, 2015, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Another three defendants pled guilty before they were called for trial. The defendants were prosecuted by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team in courtrooms 5150 and 5370 before The Honorable A. Robinson Hassell and The Honorable Gregory R. Hayes, Superior Court Judges. Court was not held on January 19, 2015, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Jonathan Odell Teeter, 47, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 2) selling cocaine, 3) delivering cocaine and 4) being a habitual felon. A jury found Teeter *guilty* of the lesser-included offense of possession of cocaine and delivering cocaine, and the jury found him *not guilty* of selling cocaine. Following the verdicts, Teeter admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Hassell sentenced Teeter to 100-132 months in prison. Some of Teeter's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering, larceny after breaking or entering and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Eric Paul Gist, 42, was tried for 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 3) possession of drug paraphernalia and 4) being a habitual felon. A jury found Gist *guilty* of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and possession of drug paraphernalia. Gist then admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Hassell sentenced Gist to 74-101 months in prison. Some of Gist's prior convictions include multiple convictions for trafficking in cocaine.

Jeffery Bernard White, 55, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 2) possession of drug paraphernalia and 3) being a habitual felon. A jury found White *guilty* as charged, and White admitted his status as a habitual felon. Judge Hayes sentenced White to 42-63 months in prison. Some of White's prior convictions include common law robbery.

The following defendants pled guilty prior to being called for trial:

Jeremy J. Hinson, 25, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) failure to register as a sex offender and 3) being a habitual felon. Hinson was sentenced to 73-100 months in prison. Some of Hinson's prior convictions include taking indecent liberties with a child and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Timothy Patrick Tyler, 47, pled guilty to obtaining property by false pretenses. Tyler was sentenced to 6-17 months in prison.

Anthony Lord Byrd, 24, pled guilty to obtaining property by false pretenses. Byrd was sentenced to 9-20 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending Byrd's successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. Byrd was also ordered to wear an electronic monitor for the first 10 months of his probation.

Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit www.charmeckda.com. For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at www.facebook.com/charmeckda and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.

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