

# NEWS RELEASE

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## DA's Habitual Felon Team sends 22 defendants to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 26 defendants during the week of February 2, 2015. Of those convicted, 22 were sent to prison; some were not habitual felons under North Carolina law. The defendants entered guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted were:

Tre Alexander Jackson, 22, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) larceny after breaking or entering and 3) being a habitual felon. Jackson was sentenced to 67-93 months in prison. Some of Jackson's prior convictions include larceny of a motor vehicle and multiple convictions for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. In July 2014, Jackson kicked in the front door to a Charlotte home and stole electronics and jewelry. Later that day, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police found him driving a vehicle containing the stolen items, and crime scene analysts confirmed that a palm print discovered in the home belonged to Jackson.

James Farrell Gregory, 43, pled guilty to 1) larceny from the person and 2) being a habitual felon. Gregory was sentenced to 77-105 months in prison. Some of Gregory's prior convictions include robbery with a dangerous weapon, larceny from the person and habitual misdemeanor larceny.

Virgil Orlando Freeman, 38, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) being a habitual felon. Freeman was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison. Some of Freeman's prior convictions include possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, trafficking in cocaine and discharging a firearm into occupied property.

Devin Johan Thomas, 28, pled guilty to 1) felony fleeing to elude arrest in a motor vehicle, 2) driving while impaired and 3) being a habitual felon. Thomas was sentenced to 48-70 months in prison. Some of Thomas' prior convictions include assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, second-degree burglary and possession of a stolen motor vehicle.

*Note: Almost all guilty pleas entered in criminal administrative court are the result of an agreed upon plea arrangement between the State and the defendant, which is then approved by the sentencing judge. For more information about why most cases must be resolved by plea negotiation instead of jury trial, please visit the "Understanding Criminal Court" section of the DA's website at [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com).*

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