

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team sends 11 defendants to prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 14 defendants during the week of March 2, 2015, in Superior Court. Eleven of those defendants were sent to prison; some were not habitual felons under North Carolina law. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Jackie Dewayne Jones, 36, pled guilty to 1) two counts of felony fleeing to elude arrest in a motor vehicle and 2) being a habitual felon. Jones was sentenced to 58-82 months in prison. In February 2014, Jones led a N.C. State Highway patrolman on a chase that began on Interstate 77 in Mecklenburg County. The trooper was able to arrest Jones after Jones struck a light pole and was forced to stop. In a second incident in September 2014, Jones fled from Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers at speeds of up to 80 miles per hour on Wilkinson Boulevard and Old Steele Creek Road. Jones eventually stopped the vehicle and fled on foot but was apprehended by officers in a foot chase.

Jamie Hunter, 36, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, 2) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine, 3) assault on a government official and 4) being a habitual felon. Hunter was sentenced to 50-72 months in prison. Some of Hunter's prior convictions include possession of cocaine, attempted cocaine distribution and assault on a government official.

Duran Rozelle, 36, pled guilty to 1) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Rozelle was sentenced to 40-60 months in prison.

Joshua Lee Carter, 23, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender. Carter was sentenced to 38-58 months in prison. Some of Carter's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering, larceny after breaking or entering and felony fleeing to elude arrest in a 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.

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