## **District Attorney's Office**

State of North Carolina 26th Prosecutorial District Mecklenburg County

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## **NEWS** RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray District Attorney

## March 21, 2014

## Man sentenced to at least 48 years in prison for statutory sex offenses

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Michael Brian Wise, 44, was sentenced to at least 48 years in prison after a jury convicted him of statutory sex offenses. The trial began March 17, 2014, in courtroom 5130 before The Honorable Jesse B. Caldwell, III, Superior Court Judge.

The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team tried Wise for 1) statutory rape and 2) two counts of statutory sex offense. On March 20, the jury found him guilty as charged. Judge Caldwell then sentenced him to three consecutive sentences of 192-291 months in prison, totaling a minimum of 48 years in prison. Upon release from prison, Wise must register as a sex offender.

In August 2012, Wise drove from his home in Rock Hill, S.C., to a park in Cornelius to meet a 14-year-old girl with whom he'd been communicating through Facebook. Wise drove the girl to a nearby parking lot, engaged her in sexual acts and then drove back to the park. A Cornelius police officer on patrol noticed Wise's van in the park after hours and approached to



Michael Brian Wise

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check on the van's occupants. After the officer discovered Wise with the girl, Wise confessed

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to the sex acts.