

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual Felon Team sends 2 to prison during trial week

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team tried two defendants during the week of May 5, 2014, and a third defendant pled guilty following jury selection for his trial. The proceedings were held in courtrooms 5150 and 5370 before The Honorable Martin B. McGee and The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judges.

After a jury was selected for the trial of Kenny Bowden, the defendant decided to plead guilty. Bowden, 28, pled guilty to 1) second-degree burglary, 2) larceny after breaking or entering, 3) possession of stolen goods, 4) possession of burglary tools and 5) being a habitual felon. Bowden also pled guilty to the following charges in an unrelated case: 1) obtaining property by false pretense, 2) identity theft and 3) being a habitual felon. Judge McGee sentenced Bowden to 83-112 months in prison. Some of Bowden's prior convictions include breaking or entering, larceny after breaking or entering and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Timothy Lawing, 42, was tried for 1) breaking or entering, 2) larceny after breaking or entering and 3) being a habitual felon. At the close of the State's evidence, Judge Boner dismissed the charge of larceny after breaking or entering. The jury found Lawing *guilty* of breaking or entering and *not guilty* of being a habitual felon. Judge Boner sentenced him to 18-31 months in prison. Some of Lawing's prior convictions include breaking or entering, first-degree arson and first-degree kidnapping.

Carnell Shaheed, 25, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury found him *not guilty*.

In addition to the trials, the Habitual Felon Team made arguments in regards to a defendant's motion to suppress certain evidence seized or obtained by law enforcement, alleging violations of the defendant's legal rights. After hearing testimony and arguments from the defense and the Assistant District Attorney, Judge Boner denied the defendant's motion. The case will proceed to trial at a later date.

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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