

NEWS RELEASE

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Sex offenders, armed robbers among 41 convicted

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team convicted 41 defendants, including sex offenders and armed robbers, June 30-July 3, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Lisa C. Bell, Superior Court Judge. Court was not held on July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

Among those convicted and sent to prison were:

Antoine Washington, 24, pled guilty to 1) first-degree rape and 2) robbery with a dangerous weapon. Washington was sentenced to 254-365 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Washington must register as a sex offender and participate in satellite-based monitoring for the rest of his life. In March 2014, the victims – a man and a woman – were driving home from work when they encountered Washington, who offered to pay them for a ride. After getting in the vehicle, Washington struck the male victim from behind, stole his cellphone and forced him out of the car. Then, he held the female victim at gunpoint, forcing her to drive to an industrial area in Charlotte, where he sexually assaulted her. Meanwhile, the male victim called 911 and provided a description of the suspect, and police began searching the area. Officers located and arrested Washington just as he was forcing the female victim to drive away from the industrial area.

Jamie Tadlock, 19, pled guilty to first-degree sex offense. Tadlock was sentenced to 144-233 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Tadlock must register as a sex offender.

Tou Lee, 39, pled guilty to two counts of attempted first-degree sex offense. Lee was sentenced to 125-159 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Lee must register as a sex offender.

Jamar McCullough, 21, pled guilty to robbery with a dangerous weapon. McCullough was sentenced to 59-83 months in prison.

Evan Painter, 37, pled guilty to attempted second-degree sex offense. Painter was sentenced to 48-118 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Painter must register as a sex offender.

Jairus Gaskin, 24, pled guilty to 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) discharging a weapon into occupied property. Gaskin was sentenced to 45-63 months in prison.

Kevin Triplett, 45, pled guilty to 1) indecent liberties with a minor and 2) obtaining property by false pretenses. Triplett was sentenced to 36-44 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Triplett must register as a sex offender.

Derick Smith, 34, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Smith was sentenced to 26-44 months in prison.

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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