

NEWS RELEASE

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5 defendants tried for robberies, sex offenses; 2 others plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Crimes Against Persons Team tried five defendants during the week of July 14, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Two additional defendants pled guilty. The proceedings were held before The Honorable Lindsay R. Davis, The Honorable Eric L. Levinson and The Honorable Mark E. Powell, Superior Court Judges.

Kelvin Vales, 31, was tried for 1) three counts of indecent liberties with a minor, 2) three counts of statutory rape and 3) one count of sexual activity by a substitute parent. The jury found Vales *guilty* of three counts of indecent liberties with a minor and sexual activity by a substitute parent. The jury found Vales *not guilty* of the remaining charges. Judge Powell sentenced Vales to 64-87 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Vales must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Asia Mann, 18, was tried for robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury found Mann *guilty* as charged. Judge Levinson sentenced Mann to 38-58 months in prison.

Jose Mendez-Lemus, 23, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury returned verdicts of *guilty* for the lesser-included offenses of common law robbery and conspiracy to commit common law robbery. Judge Davis sentenced Mendez-Lemus to 13-25 months in prison.

Jordan Bakhole, 21, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon, 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and 3) second-degree kidnapping. The jury returned verdicts of *not guilty*.

Richard Ussery, 29, was tried for 1) robbery with a dangerous weapon and 2) conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. The jury returned verdicts of *not guilty*.

The following two defendants pled guilty during the trial week:

Kelly Tate, 36, pled guilty to two counts of second-degree sex offense. Tate was sentenced to 104-185 months in prison. Upon his release from prison, Tate must register as a sex offender for 30 years.

Reginald Brown, 43, pled guilty to 1) common law robbery and 2) assault on a female. Brown was sentenced to 15-27 months in prison.

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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