

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
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39 defendants convicted of drug offenses

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of August 17, 2015, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted 39 defendants in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Carla N. Archie, Superior Court Judge. The convictions were for crimes that included possessing, selling and trafficking in illegal drugs. Based on the structured sentencing laws in North Carolina, sentences ranged from probation to active prison sentences.

Among the defendants who pled guilty were:

William Spake, 27, pled guilty to 1) attempted trafficking in heroin by sale and 2) possession with the intent to sell or deliver heroin. Spake was sentenced to 11-23 months in prison. He was also sentenced to an additional 25-39 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation. In May 2013, Spake sold several grams of heroin to an undercover Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officer.

William Michael Davis, 40, pled guilty to 1) sale of cocaine and 2) possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine. Davis was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Davis must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

Richard Beldo, 22, pled guilty to possession of drug paraphernalia. Beldo was sentenced to 22 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail.

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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