

# NEWS RELEASE

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## 3 defendants tried for drug crimes; 4 other drug offenders plead guilty

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Three defendants were tried for drug crimes, and four others pled guilty during the week of August 25, 2014, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court. The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team held the proceedings before The Honorable Beecher R. Gray and The Honorable A. Robinson Hassell, Superior Court Judges.

Diondre Bittle, 22, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. The jury found him *guilty* as charged. Judge Gray sentenced Bittle to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 36 months of supervised probation. As one of the conditions of his probation, Bittle must serve 90 days in the Mecklenburg County jail.

Boris Pharr, 30, was tried for possession with the intent to sell or deliver cocaine. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty* to the lesser-included offense of possession of cocaine. Judge Hassell sentenced Pharr to 5-15 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Dale Matthews, 23, was tried for 1) possession with the intent to sell or deliver marijuana, 2) felony possession of marijuana and 3) flee to elude arrest. The jury found him *not guilty*.

The following defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial:

Kayla Newton, 27, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by sale, 2) trafficking in heroin by delivery, 3) trafficking in heroin by possession, 4) sale of heroin, 5) delivery of heroin and 6) possession with the intent to sell or deliver heroin. Newton was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Rahmelle Dingle, 28, pled guilty to selling cocaine. Dingle was sentenced to 18-31 months in prison.

Demarco McDowell, 28, pled guilty to 1) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and 2) possession of drug paraphernalia. McDowell was sentenced to 10-21 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation.

Damontrae White, 21, pled guilty to possession of drug paraphernalia. White was sentenced to 45 days in the Mecklenburg County jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of supervised probation.

*Note: For more information about the District Attorney's Office, visit [www.charmeckda.com](http://www.charmeckda.com). For updates and other information, "like" the DA's Office on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/charmeckda](http://www.facebook.com/charmeckda) and follow us on Twitter: @CharMeckDA.*

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