

NEWS RELEASE

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Habitual felons who committed break-ins among 11 convicted

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Habitual Felon Team convicted 11 defendants during the week of September 19, 2016. Eight of those defendants were sent to prison. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge. Among those convicted were:

Linston Bernard Walker, 54, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering, 2) larceny after breaking or entering and 3) being a habitual felon. Walker was sentenced to 77-105 months in prison. In April 2016, a concerned neighbor called 911 to report that someone had just broken into a home in Charlotte's Belmont neighborhood. Police responded to the victim's home and discovered that the suspect had broken a bedroom window to gain entry. Crime scene investigators who analyzed the bedroom located Walker's palm print on a bookcase near the broken window. Some of Walker's prior convictions include multiple counts of felony breaking or entering, robbery with a dangerous weapon and multiple counts of larceny after breaking or entering.

Donald Lowell Dietz, 49, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual felon. Dietz was sentenced to 77-105 months in prison. Some of Dietz's prior convictions include possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, trafficking in cocaine by sale and felony possession of stolen goods.

Matthew Matt Matt, 44, pled guilty to 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) being a habitual breaking or entering status offender. Matt was sentenced to 35-54 months in prison. Matt's prior convictions include felony breaking or entering and larceny after breaking or entering.

Torrey Quincy Hicks, 44, pled guilty to 1) breaking or entering a motor vehicle, 2) larceny of a motor vehicle and 3) being a habitual felon. Hicks was sentenced to 35-54 months in prison. Some of Hicks' prior convictions include multiple counts of breaking or entering a motor vehicle.

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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