District Attorney's Office

State of North Carolina
26th Prosecutorial District
Mecklenburg County

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NEWS RELEASE

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Rapist convicted at trial; sentenced to 192-250 months in prison

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Today, a jury found Ronald Deese III, 24, guilty of raping his ex-girlfriend in 2011. The trial began September 30, 2013, in Mecklenburg County Superior Court before The Honorable Richard D. Boner, Superior Court Judge.

Deese was tried for 1) second-degree rape, 2) two counts of second-degree sex offense and 3) felony breaking or entering. The jury found Deese *guilty* of second-degree rape, one count of second-degree sex offense and felony breaking or entering. The jury found him *not guilty* on the other count of second-degree sex offense.

Judge Boner sentenced Deese to a total of 192-250 months in prison.

In January 2011, Deese broke into his ex-girlfriend's home in Charlotte. Deese covered her face and head with a blanket, taped her wrists and ankles, raped her and then fled. He soon returned, however, and pretended to come to the woman's aid, even calling 911 for her. Police later found a bookbag containing electrical tape, latex gloves and black clothing under the deck of the victim's home. Crime scene analysts found that DNA evidence collected from the victim and the scene matched Deese's DNA.

The Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office appreciates the courage shown by the victim, who testified against her attacker at trial and helped prosecutors seek justice.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The DA's Office and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department are partnering to host the Third Annual "Steps for Change" Domestic Violence Awareness Walk/Run on October 12, 2013. <u>Click here</u> for more information and learn how to register.

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