

NEWS RELEASE

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Property Team sends sex offender to prison; ten others convicted of property crimes

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of September 26, 2011, the District Attorney's Office convicted ten defendants of committing various property crimes against the citizens of Mecklenburg County. One sex offender was also convicted and received a lengthy prison sentence. Seven defendants pled guilty before their cases were called for trial. Two misdemeanor appeal trials were conducted against defendants charged with driving while impaired. The trials were held in courtrooms 5130, 5150, 5370, 6150, and 6170.

On September 27, 2011 in Courtroom 6170, Lawrence Crank, 35, was tried for failing to comply with the sex offender registration law. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. The Honorable H. William Constangy sentenced Crank to 20 – 24 months in prison.

On September 28, 2011 in Courtroom 5150, a Mecklenburg County jury returned a verdict of *guilty* against Demarcus Mack, 17, for attempted misdemeanor breaking or entering. The jury found Mack *not guilty* of related felony charges. The Honorable James W. Morgan sentenced Mack to 30 days in the county jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation.

On September 29, 2011 in Courtroom 6150, Justin Lawrence, 22, was tried for 1) felony breaking or entering and 2) felony larceny. The jury returned a verdict of *not guilty*. Also on September 29, 2011 in Courtroom 6170, Genaro Gainey, 36, was tried for felony possession of stolen goods. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. Judge Constangy sentenced Gainey to 6-8 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 30 months of supervised probation.

On October 3, 2011, in Courtroom 5130, a Mecklenburg County jury returned a verdict of *guilty* against Charles Winchester, 33, for felony burning of a public building. The Honorable Linwood O. Foust sentenced the defendant to 20-24 months in prison.

On September 29, 2011, in Courtroom 5130, William Langley, 21, was tried for driving while impaired. The jury returned a verdict of *guilty*. Judge Foust sentenced Langley to 8 to 10 days in the county jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 12 months of unsupervised probation.

On September 29 and 30, 2011, in Courtroom 5370, Miranda Smith, 30, was tried for driving while impaired. The jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict. The Honorable F. Lane Williamson declared a mistrial.

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