

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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Heroin, methamphetamine traffickers among 36 convicted of drug offenses

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – During the week of November 10, 2014, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Drug Team convicted 36 defendants of drug crimes. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable Hugh B. Lewis, 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. Court was not held on November 11, 2014, in observance of Veterans Day.

Among the defendants who pled guilty and were sent to prison were:

Brian Bradley, 29, pled guilty to 1) trafficking in heroin by possession and 2) possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Bradley was sentenced to a total of 105-147 months in prison. In May 2014, undercover Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers purchased a gun and heroin from Bradley. When officers executed a search warrant at Bradley's residence, they found that he was in possession of more heroin.

Ivan Ramos, 34, pled guilty to trafficking in heroin by possession. Ramos was sentenced to 90-120 months in prison.

Salbador Nieto, 32, pled guilty to conspiracy to traffick heroin by transportation. Nieto was sentenced to 90-120 months in prison.

Pascual Andres, 30, pled guilty to trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation. Andres was sentenced to 70-93 months in prison.

Christian Iturvide, 28, pled guilty to attempted trafficking in methamphetamine by transportation. Iturvide was sentenced to 20-36 months in prison.

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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