

NEWS RELEASE

R. Andrew Murray
District Attorney

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3 men convicted of domestic violence crimes

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – Over the course of two days, the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Domestic Violence Team convicted three defendants in Superior Court. The defendants entered their guilty pleas in courtroom 5350 before The Honorable W. Robert Bell, Superior Court Judge, on December 2 and December 4, 2015.

The following defendants pled guilty:

Michael Gantt, 27, pled guilty to possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Gantt was sentenced to 13-25 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation. As conditions of his probation, Gantt must serve 82 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail and complete a certified intervention program for batterers upon his release from jail.

Tyler Poling, 27, pled guilty to 1) felony stalking and 2) violation of a domestic violence protective order. Poling was sentenced to 8-19 months in prison; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 24 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Poling must complete a certified intervention program for batterers.

Marcus Funderburk, 34, pled guilty to assault on a female. Funderburk was sentenced to 150 days in the Mecklenburg County Jail; that sentence was suspended pending his successful completion of 18 months of supervised probation. As a condition of his probation, Funderburk must complete a certified intervention program for batterers.

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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