

Southport Man Pleads Guilty To 15 Felonies, Sentenced To 14 years

A Southport man facing a maximum 182-year prison term was sentenced to 14 years after pleading guilty last week to 15 felonies and one misdemeanor.

In Brunswick County Superior Court last week, David Alexander Bunch, 28, of River Road, Southport, pleaded guilty to seven counts of breaking and entering, six charges of larceny and one count each of second-degree burglary, larceny of a firearm and misdemeanor larceny.

As part of a plea bargain, Bunch was given the mandatory minimum sentence of 14 years on the burglar charge, which carries a possible prison term of 40 years.

The 14 other 10-year felonies were combined for judgment, in which Bunch received a six-year sentence that will run at the same time as the burglary sentence. A two-year sentence imposed for the misdemeanor also will run concurrent with the other active sentence.

Judge Gregory Weeks recommended that Bunch participate in the Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Training (DART) program while in prison.

In other cases heard during three days of superior court last week:

■ The judge refused to reduce the \$50,000 bond imposed on Robert Duane Sommersett, 22, of Green Bay Road, Shallotte, who is charged with three counts each of first degree statutory rape, first degree sexual offense and taking indecent liberties with children. He also faces felony charges of larceny and possession of stolen goods.

■ Doris Pinto Thornton, 31, of Mill Creek Road, Winnabow pleaded guilty to two counts of felony child abuse and was given a five-year suspended prison sentence as part of a plea bargain. She was put on supervised probation for five years and ordered not to have any contact with a co-defendant in the case. She was told not to allow him to have any contact with her minor

children. She was ordered to participate in counselling and assessed court costs.

■ Frank Timmons Strawn, 23, of NE 29th Street, Long Beach, pleaded guilty to a charge of obtaining property by false pretense. He was sentenced to five years, suspended on the condition that he pay \$568 restitution, a \$250 fine, court costs and \$150 for his court-appointed lawyer. He was ordered to perform 72 hours of community service within one year. Strawn was put on supervised probation for five years.

■ James Ronald Locklear, 35, of Gatlin's Mobile Home Estates, Leland, pleaded guilty to misdemeanor possession of stolen goods. He had been accused of felony possession of stolen goods and agreed to plead guilty to the lesser offense as part of a plea bargain. Locklear was sentenced to two years, suspended on the condition that he pay court costs and not possess a firearm for two years. He was put on supervised probation for two years.

■ Gerald G. Boswell, 42, of Indigo Circle, Sunset Beach was sentenced to 10 successive weekends in jail after being found in violation of his probation. He was allowed to continue on probation on the condition that he pay his past-due supervision fees.

■ Linwood Percell Stanley, 44, of Route 7, Shallotte, admitted violating probation and had it revoked. Her prison sentence was activated, to run at the same time as any sentence she is now serving.

■ Teagre Hall Tonge, 29, of Main Street, Navassa, admitted violating probation and had it revoked. Her prison sentence was activated, to run at the same time as any sentence she is now serving.

■ Russell Boyd Matthews, 53, of Evergreen Drive, Bolivia, admitted violating probation and was allowed to continue on probation.

■ Frederick Wayne Ganey, 34, of Route 2, Leland violated his probation and was allowed to continue on the condition that he not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages.

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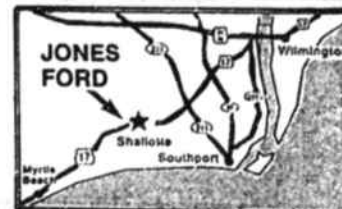
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