

MEDIA ADVISORY October 21, 2021

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## MCSO Welcomes Councilman Braxton Winston for Resident Town Hall

**(CHARLOTTE, NC)**-On Wednesday, October 20, 2021, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), in collaboration with Charlotte City Councilman Braxton Winston, hosted a virtual town hall for residents housed at Mecklenburg County Detention Center-Central (MCDCC).

The town hall event was an opportunity to discuss how the City of Charlotte can assist MCDCC residents with services to increase their success post release. Residents were able to ask panelists questions regarding fair housing, treatment based programs for substance abuse, resources to help strenghthen bonds between families and assistance with integration. Panelists for the town hall included Mecklenburg County Commissioner Mark Jerrell, representatives from Charlotte Works, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations, the Center for Community Transitions, CMS Board of Education, Freedom Fighting Missionaries, Housing and Neighborhood Services.

"I have witnessed many of these residents being released from our facility with no one waiting to pick them up and nowhere to go. So, when Councilman Winston approached me about this opportunity, I was fully onboard," said Sheriff McFadden.

"I wanted to provide an opportunity for us to listen to our residents whose voices are rarely heard or considered when we implement policies, practices and initiatives," said Council Member Winston.

The collaboration is part of Sheriff McFadden's vision and mission to be a progressive, service oriented and purpose driven agency using innovative and humane practices towards rehabilitating the men and women in MCSO custody.

"It takes this type of collaboration and discussion to truly listen as well as educate in an effort to help these men and women better themselves before returning back into the community. We must continue building the bridge, for MCSO that doesn't just happen outside our facility, it happens inside as well," said Sheriff McFadden.