

Two individuals were arraigned in Van Wert County Common Pleas Court before Judge Charles D. Steele on Wednesday morning.

Rachel L. Clark, 27, Van Wert entered not guilty pleas to a two count indictment charging her with identity theft and theft.

Clark was released on a \$5,000 unsecured personal bond with a pretrial hearing scheduled for April 3.

Seth May, 19, Van Wert, entered a not guilty plea to a charge of theft, a felony of the fifth degree.

May was released on a \$5,000 unsecured personal surety bond, with a pretrial hearing scheduled for April 3.

Sentencings

Cody J. Edwards, 21, Saginaw, Texas, the last of the trio involved in the damage of a crane and other equipment at one of the windmill work sites, was sentenced. Edwards had been charged with vandalism, a fourth degree felony.

Judge Steele placed Edwards on three years of community control and ordered that he spend up to six months at the WORTH Center in Lima. Edwards is to spend up to an additional 30 days in the Van Wert County Jail at a time to be determined by his supervision officer. Edwards was also ordered to pay his share of the restitution to the Blattner Company for a loss the sustained of \$58,000, Edwards was also to pay all other costs associated with the prosecution of his case.

A basic prison term of 12 months was given to Edwards with the imposition of the prison term deferred pending the successful completion of the community control program.

Michael A. Speakman, 20, Van Wert, was sentenced to two years of community control on a theft charge, a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Speakman used a credit/debit card belonging to a relative, which he claimed was a misunderstanding when he addressed the court.

Speakman was ordered to make restitution of \$650, enroll in a GED program, pay all court costs and perform 200 hours of community service.

Judge Steele also gave Speakman a 180-day jail sentence and a fine of \$1,000 with the imposition of the sentence being deferred pending the successful completion of the community control program.

Brandon L. Murphy, Columbus, was sentence on a bond violation and community control violation, he was resentenced to three years of community control under the previous conditions.

Murphy's previous prison sentence was continued but had the imposition deferred pending the completion of community control.

Erik R. Byer, Van Wert, admitted to violating the terms of his community control.

Byer was remanded to the sheriff to spend 180 days in jail, he will be eligible for work release if he has full time employment.

David L. Boff Jr., 19, Van Wert, entered a plea of guilty to unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, a felony of the fourth degree.

According to the prosecutor's office, Boff allegedly was involved in sexual conduct with a minor over the age of 13 but younger than 16.

Judge Steele ordered a pre-sentence investigation and scheduled sentencing for April 25.

Judge Steele reminded Boff that he would be determined a tier two sex offender and must register with the sheriff for a period of 25 years and registration must be done once ever 180 days.

Dale W. Wright, 19, Van Wert, entered a guilty plea to a charge of grand theft, a felony of the fourth degree.

According to the prosecutor's office, Wright is accused of taking a 1998 Buick Regal in December.

Judge Steele ordered a pre-sentence investigation and scheduled sentencing for April 25.

Alisha L. Elder, Van Wert, was granted judicial release from prison after spending approximately six months on a charge of theft, a felony of the fifth degree.

Elder will spend three years on community control and have 30 days to serve in the Van Wert County Jail at a time to be determined by her supervision officer. Elder was ordered to make restitution to her grandparents in the amount of \$1791.62 and pay all court costs associated with the prosecution of her case.

Elder will be under the supervision of the Van Wert County Adult Probation Department.

Kelly M. McKenzie, 49, Van Wert, entered guilty pleas to a three count indictment charging her with trafficking in heroin, trafficking in drugs and one count of trafficking in a counterfeit substance alleged to have been heroin.

All three drug related charges took place in late August and early September 2011, at which time, she had dealings with an undercover agent working for the Van Wert City Police Department.

McKenzie's attorney, Scott Gordon asked that she be released on bond so that she could get her affairs together before sentencing. Van Wert County Prosecuting Attorney, Charles F. Kennedy opposed her being released.

Judge Steele ordered a pre-sentence investigation and scheduled sentencing for April 25.