



The City of New York
Department of Investigation
ROSE GILL HEARN
COMMISSIONER

80 MAIDEN LANE
NEW YORK, NY 10038
212-825-5900

Release #26-2012
nyc.gov/html/doi

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2012

CONTACT: DIANE STRUZZI
(212) 825-5931

DOI ARRESTS CITY CORRECTION OFFICER ON CHARGES OF SMUGGLING DRUGS INTO JAIL

ROSE GILL HEARN, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation ("DOI"), announced the arrest today of a New York City Correction Officer charged with collecting \$1,200 to bring illegal drugs and purported drugs into the Anna M. Kross Center ("AMKC") on Rikers Island on four occasions this year. DOI's investigation, which included covert operations, determined that in February 2012 and March 2012 the defendant smuggled marijuana into AMKC and received \$200 for each of those two transactions. In April 2012, the defendant provided two suboxone strips (a drug used to treat opiate addiction) to an inmate in AMKC for \$100; and on a separate occasion in April, the defendant received \$700 and a delivery of pills purported to be oxycontin that were actually placebos, which he then smuggled into AMKC. DOI retrieved the illegal contraband used during these covert operations. The defendant is charged by an indictment obtained by the office of the Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, which is prosecuting the case.

DOI Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn said, "There is zero tolerance for drug smuggling in the City jails, most especially by a correction officer who was supposed to protect the facility not facilitate crime within it, as alleged in the indictment. DOI will continue to attack and root out any instance of this kind of troubling corruption."

LASHAR WILLIAMS, 38, of Brooklyn N.Y. is charged in a 27-count indictment that includes the top charges of Bribe Receiving in the Third Degree, Promoting Prison Contraband in the First Degree, Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the Fifth Degree, and Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the Fifth Degree, class D felonies, Receiving Reward for Official Misconduct in the Second Degree, a class E felony, and related misdemeanors. Upon conviction, a class D felony is punishable by up to seven years in prison and a class E felony by up to four years.

WILLIAMS has been employed with DOC since February 1999, was assigned to AMKC, and received an annual base salary of approximately \$76,488. Prior to the indictment, WILLIAMS was transferred to the Transportation Division on Rikers Island where he was prohibited from inmate contact. Upon arrest, he was suspended without pay.

Commissioner Gill Hearn thanked Bronx County District Attorney Robert T. Johnson and DOC Commissioner Dora B. Schriro and their staffs for their assistance in this investigation.

The investigation was conducted by DOI's Office of the Inspector General for the DOC.

Assistant District Attorney Daniel Haines of the Bronx County District Attorney's Rackets Bureau is assigned to the prosecution of the case.

An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country. The agency investigates and refers for prosecution City employees and contractors engaged in corrupt or fraudulent activities or unethical conduct. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City.

DOI's press releases can also be found at twitter.com/doinews
Get the worms out of the Big Apple. To report someone ripping off the City, call DOI at (212) 825-5959.