



Department of Investigation

Press Release

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NYC DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION OFFICER CONVICTED OF ATTEMPTING TO SUPPLY A RIKERS ISLAND INMATE WITH ILLEGAL NARCOTICS IN EXCHANGE FOR SEX AND MONEY

Bronx District Attorney Robert T. Johnson announced today that an officer with the New York City Department of Correction has been convicted of attempting to smuggle cocaine to a Rikers Island inmate with whom she had maintained an ongoing romantic relationship. The inmate was a convicted killer with ties to the drug trade.

Grindl Hawkins, a 37 year old Bronx resident, pled guilty to Attempted Criminal Sale of a Controlled Substance in the 3rd degree. Under terms of the plea agreement, Hawkins will be sentenced to a term of 3 to 9 years imprisonment when she appears before Acting State Supreme Court Justice Roger Hayes on Tuesday, May 29, 2001 in Part 56. Hawkins had been a Correction Officer for ten years.

Hawkins admitted that she met with an undercover investigator for the New York City Department of Investigation and was given half an ounce of what she believed to be cocaine. She was also given a \$300 payment for the pickup and subsequent delivery of the package. The transaction took place in the parking lot of a McDonald's restaurant on Astoria Boulevard. Surveillance teams made video and audio recordings of the transaction. Hawkins later smuggled the package into the Anna M. Kross Center on Rikers Island where the inmate took possession of the simulated narcotics sometime between December 10, 1999 and December 25, 1999.

NYC Dept. Of Correction Officer Convicted

Correction Department Inspector General Michael Caruso of the NYC Department of Investigation set up the sting after the inmate complained that Hawkins had stolen some money from him. The defendant believed that the undercover investigator with whom she was dealing was the girlfriend of an associate of the inmate who implicated her.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Richard Best and Laura Moore Brown of the Investigations Division's Rackets Bureau.