



Department of Justice

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PRISON GUARD PLEADS GUILTY TO BRIBERY

Atlanta, GA - NATHANIEL GRAY, 41, of Riverdale, Georgia, pleaded guilty today in federal district court to accepting money in exchange for bringing contraband into the Atlanta City Detention Center.

"Prison guards, like NATHANIEL GRAY, are entrusted with maintaining order and discipline among inmates, many of whom have been charged with or convicted of violent crimes," said United States Attorney David E. Nahmias. "The introduction of contraband into a prison threatens that order and discipline, and it can also create danger for other inmates and guards. It is sad that GRAY acted out of petty greed and betrayed his duty as a sworn law enforcement officer. In his plea today, GRAY admitted to acting corruptly and betraying the public trust."

According to United States Attorney Nahmias and the information presented in court: NATHANIEL GRAY was a corrections officer with the City of Atlanta Department of Corrections. GRAY was assigned to the Atlanta City Detention Center ("ACDC"), which has a contract with the federal government to house persons charged with federal crimes. In March 2006, the FBI was contacted by a person stating that GRAY was willing to bring contraband into the ACDC in exchange for money. Working with the FBI, the informant contacted GRAY about bringing alcohol and a cell phone into the ACDC for a designated prisoner. On March 17, 2006, GRAY called the informant and told her to meet him in the parking lot of a fast-food restaurant near the prison. The informant met GRAY and gave him the cell phone and the alcohol, which had been poured into emptied Coca-Cola bottles to disguise the contents. She also gave him \$50 in exchange for taking the items into the prison. GRAY returned to the ACDC shortly afterwards and was arrested after carrying the contraband past a secured area.

GRAY was indicted on April 11, 2006, on one count of bringing contraband into the ACDC, and one count of accepting money to bring contraband into the prison in violation of his official duty. He pleaded guilty today to both counts of the indictment. He could receive a maximum sentence of 16 years in prison and a fine of up to \$350,000.

Sentencing is scheduled for November 8, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., before United States District Judge Beverly B. Martin.

This case is being investigated by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation with assistance provided by the City of Atlanta Department of Corrections and the U.S. Marshal Service.

Assistant United States Attorney Paul Jones is prosecuting the case.

For further information please contact David E. Nahmias (pronounced NAH-me-us), United States Attorney, Charysse L. Alexander, Executive Assistant United States Attorney, through Patrick Crosby, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Attorney's Office, at (404) 581-6016. The Internet address for the HomePage for the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is www.usdoj.gov/usao/gan.