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## **CORRECTIONS OFFICER AT FEDERAL PRISON IN POLLOCK, LOUISIANA INDICTED FOR BRIBERY**

### *Accepted \$50,000 to Smuggle Handgun to Federal Inmate*

Shreveport, La.: A corrections officer employed by the United States Bureau of Prisons was indicted by a federal grand jury today for accepting a \$50,000 bribe to smuggle a handgun into a prison and give it to an inmate, United States Attorney Donald W. Washington announced today. BRANDON DAVID WILLIS, age 29, of Pitkin, formerly assigned to the United States Penitentiary at Pollock, Louisiana, was charged with two counts of bribery, one count of providing contraband to a prisoner, two counts of attempt to provide contraband to a prisoner, and one count of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute. WILLIS has been ordered to appear for arraignment on October 1, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., before United States Magistrate Judge James D. Kirk in Alexandria, La.

The indictment charges that in August 2009, WILLIS provided a cellular telephone to an inmate at USP Pollock in exchange for a \$1,300 bribe. Cellular telephones are considered contraband inside a federal prison. In September, WILLIS agreed to provide an inmate with a handgun and cocaine in exchange for \$50,000, and was attempting to do so when he was arrested on September 10.

If convicted, WILLIS faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison for each bribery count, a \$250,000 fine, or both. The maximum penalty for providing or attempting to provide contraband to a federal prisoner is 10 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both. Possession of cocaine with intent to distribute carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both.

An indictment is merely an accusation and a defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

This case was investigated by the Office of Inspector General, United States Department of Justice, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Earl M. Campbell.

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