**U.S. Department of Justice**
**U.S. Attorney's Office**
**Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## EL PASO DEA AGENT ARRESTED ON BRIBERY CHARGE

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that George H. Brunner was arrested without incident earlier today on federal charges of bribery, accepting gratuities and aiding and abetting false statements on a visa application.

The charges, contained in a federal grand jury indictment returned on Wednesday, allege that the Drug Enforcement Administration agent accepted money and gifts in exchange for assisting Mexican Nationals in obtaining non-immigrant visas in order to legally enter the United States.

Upon conviction, Brunner faces up to 15 years in federal prison on each of the two bribery charges; up to two years in federal prison on each of the two gratuities charges; and, up to 10 years in federal prison on the visa fraud charge.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's Office of Professional Responsibility and the Department of Justice–Office of Inspector General. Assistant United States Attorney J. Brandy Gardes is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government..

**A indictment is a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.**

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