



The United States Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Western District of Louisiana

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POLLOCK CORRECTIONS OFFICER INDICTED

Prison Contraband, Bribery, Witness Tampering

Shreveport, La.: United States Attorney Stephanie A. Finley announced that a former corrections officer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Pollock, La., was indicted today by the federal grand jury for providing prison contraband, bribery, attempting to possess with intent to distribute heroin and methamphetamine, witness tampering, and mailing threatening communications.

Brandon R. Willis, age 26, of Pineville, La., was named in a 14-count federal indictment. The indictment alleges that Willis provided prohibited objects to prison inmates in exchange for cash and then threatened to cause bodily harm to the witnesses to prevent them from communicating to law enforcement officers information about the offenses.

If convicted, Willis faces a maximum penalty of 1 year in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both, for each count of providing prison contraband (cigarettes and cell phone); a maximum of 15 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both for each count of bribery; a maximum of 20

years in prison, a \$250,000 fine, or both, for attempting to possess with intent to distribute heroin and methamphetamine; a maximum of 20 years, a \$250,000 fine, or both, for each count of witness tampering; and not less than five years in prison and not more than life, a \$250,000 fine, or both, for mailing threatening communications.

An indictment is merely an accusation, and all defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This case was investigated by the Department of Justice - Office of Inspector General and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James G. Cowles, Jr.

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