

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
TAMPA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JUSTIN HARVEY

CASE NO. 8:26-cr-99-CEH-SPF

18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2)

(Acceptance of a Bribe by a  
Public Official)

18 U.S.C. § 1791(a)(1)

(Introduction of  
Contraband to a Jail)

INDICTMENT

MAR 18 2026 PM 1:17  
FILED - USDC - FLMD - TPA

The Grand Jury charges:

INTRODUCTION

At all times material to this Indictment:

1. Citrus County Detention Facility (“CCDF”) was a private jail in the Middle District of Florida. CCDF was a facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract or agreement with the United States Attorney General. Inmates held at CCDF include those awaiting trial and sentencing at the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, as well as inmates awaiting designation with the United States Bureau of Prisons to serve federal prison sentences.

2. CCDF was intended to be a secure facility. Secure facilities rely on employees with regular access to inmates to help maintain the security of facilities like CCDF. As a secure facility, and pursuant to its agreement with the Attorney

General and Florida and federal law, items such as cellular phones are prohibited at CCDF and considered contraband.

3. Written policies at CCDF confirmed this prohibition. For example, CCDF onboarding paperwork signed by employees confirmed that employees were prohibited from the introduction of contraband to CCDF without the United States Government's permission.

4. JUSTIN HARVEY was a corrections officer at CCDF. He was a public official as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 201.

5. On or about August 31, 2025, HARVEY accepted a \$4,000 bribe in exchange for introducing a cellular telephone into CCDF on behalf of an inmate.

6. On or about August 31, 2025, HARVEY received the cellular telephone intended to be smuggled into CCDF. In reality, the person delivering the contraband phone was an undercover law enforcement officer and the phone's use capability was deactivated.

7. On or about August 31, 2025, HARVEY caused the introduction of the contraband phone into CCDF. Law enforcement recovered the phone, which was wrapped in plastic, and recovered one of HARVEY's fingerprints from the wrapping.

**COUNT ONE**  
**(Acceptance of a Bribe by a Public Official)**

Paragraphs 1 through 7 of this Indictment are incorporated as though set forth herein.

On or about August 31, 2025, in the Middle District of Florida, the defendant,  
  
JUSTIN HARVEY,  
  
a public official, directly and indirectly did corruptly demand, seek, receive, accept, and agree to receive and accept something of value personally, in return for being induced to do an act and omit to do an act in violation of his official duty, that is, to introduce contraband into a federal prison for an inmate in return for the payment of monies.

In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2).

**COUNT TWO**  
**(Introduction of Contraband into a Prison)**

Paragraphs 1 through 7 of this Indictment are incorporated as though set forth herein.

On or about August 31, 2025, in the Middle District of Florida, the defendant,  
  
JUSTIN HARVEY,  
  
contrary to statutes, rules and orders, including 28 C.F.R. § 6.1, provided and attempted to provide a prohibited object, specifically, a cellular phone, to Inmate 1, an inmate of Citrus County Detention Facility, a prison, institution, and facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of and pursuant to a contract and agreement with the Attorney General.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1791(a)(1) and (b)(4).

**FORFEITURE**

1. The allegations contained in Counts One and Two are incorporated by reference for the purpose of alleging forfeiture pursuant to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

2. Upon conviction of a violation of 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2), the defendant shall forfeit to the United States, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(C) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c), any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to the offense.

3. The property to be forfeited includes, but is not limited to, an order of forfeiture in the amount of at least \$4,000, which constitutes proceeds of the offense.

4. If any of the property described above, as a result of any act or omission of the defendant:

- a. cannot be located upon the exercise of due diligence;
- b. has been transferred or sold to, or deposited with, a third party;
- c. has been placed beyond the jurisdiction of the court;
- d. has been substantially diminished in value; or
- e. has been commingled with other property which cannot be divided without difficulty,


the United States shall be entitled to forfeiture of substitute property under the provisions of 21 U.S.C. § 853(p), as incorporated by 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

A TRUE BILL,



Foreperson

GREGORY W. KEHOE  
United States Attorney

By:   
Michael J. Buchanan  
Assistant United States Attorney

By:   
Daniel Baeza  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Chief, National Security & International  
Narcotics Section

No.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
Middle District of Florida  
Tampa Division

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

vs.

JUSTIN HARVEY

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INDICTMENT

Violations: 18 U.S.C. § 201(b)(2); 18 U.S.C. § 1791(a)(1)

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A true bill

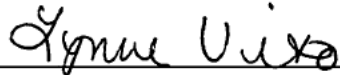
  
Foreperson

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Filed in open court this 18<sup>th</sup> day

of March, 2026



Clerk

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Bail \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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