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United States Attorney's Office
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Bureau of Prisons Inmate Pleads Guilty to Offering Bribes to Corrections Officer

DETROIT - A federal inmate with the Bureau of Prisons (BOP), pleaded guilty today to offering bribes to a corrections officer, announced United States Attorney Dawn N. Ison.

Ison was joined in the announcement by William J. Hannah, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Inspector General Midwestern Region.

Robert Bibbs, 28, of Chicago, Illinois, entered a plea of guilty to one count of offering bribes to a public official before United States District Judge Jonathan J.C. Grey.

According to the plea agreement, between April 2023 and November 2023, Bibbs became acquainted with a corrections officer (identified in the plea agreement as CO-1) while Bibbs was an inmate at the Milan, Michigan Federal Correctional Institution (FCI Milan). During this time, Bibbs asked CO-1 to purchase pouches of loose tobacco and smuggle them into the prison for him. Bibbs requested these items so that he could sell the tobacco in prison at a significant profit. In September 2023, CO-1 also purchased a gold necklace which she secretly brought into the prison and gave to Bibbs. Both the tobacco and the necklace are considered contraband within FCI Milan. Contraband is defined as prohibited materials which can reasonably be expected to cause physical injury or adversely affect the security, safety, or good order of the institution. Bibbs offered to pay CO-1 for smuggling contraband into the prison for him.

"The safety and security of our inmates and Bureau of Prisons staff is of utmost importance to our office," said United States Attorney Ison. "We will use every available means to protect those living and working inside of our prisons against the abuse of trust and security risk created when prisoners and corrections officers engage in this type of prohibited conduct."

"Contraband in prisons jeopardizes the safety and security of the facility. Illicit items, like tobacco and jewelry, can be used as a currency within prisons," said William J. Hannah, Special Agent in Charge of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Inspector General Midwestern Region. "The Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General will continue to aggressively investigate those who attempt to bribe Correctional Officers in exchange for contraband."

Sentencing is set for January 13, 2025. Bibbs faces a statutory maximum term of 15 years imprisonment.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Eaton P. Brown. The investigation is being conducted by the Department of Justice-Office of Inspector General.