

Office of the United States Attorney Eastern District of Kentucky Kerry B. Harvey

Three Indicted for Conspiring to Introduce Prohibited Items Into a Federal Prison in Ashland

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COVINGTON — A correctional officer at the Federal Correctional Institute (FCI) in Ashland, Ky., an inmate at the facility, and the inmate's girlfriend were indicted for conspiracy to introduce prohibited items into the prison.

On Thursday, a federal grand jury in Covington returned an indictment charging federal correctional officer James S. Lewis, 45, of Ironton, Ohio; inmate Gary Musick 32, of Newport, Tenn., and Musick's girlfriend, Cindy Gates, 23, also of Newport, with conspiring to introduce marijuana, tobacco and other prohibited items into the prison. Musick was also indicted for possession of contraband in prison and the indictment accuses Lewis of receiving a bribe as a public official. The conspiracy lasted from December 2010 until March 2012.

The indictment alleges Musick sold the prohibited items to other inmates in exchange for stamps. In some instances, Musick directed inmates to have money sent to an address outside of the institution as payment for the prohibited items.

Kerry B. Harvey, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky, and John F. Oleskowicz, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General, Chicago Field Office jointly announced the indictment.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General. The indictment was presented to the grand jury by Assistant U.S. Attorney Edwin J. Walbourn, III.

Lewis is scheduled to appear in federal court on September 26, 2013 in Ashland. A date for Gates and Musick to appear in court has not yet been scheduled. Lewis faces up to 20 years in prison, a maximum fine of \$250,000; Musick faces up to 10 years in prison, a \$250,000.00 fine and Gates faces up to 5 years in prison and a \$250,000.00 fine. However, any sentence following a conviction would be imposed by the Court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal statutes.

An indictment is an accusation only. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable •

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