



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney Joyce White Vance  
Northern District of Alabama

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Former Talladega Correctional Officer Indicted for Accepting Bribe to Smuggle  
Phone to Inmate**

BIRMINGHAM – A federal grand jury today indicted a former corrections officer at the Federal Correctional Institution in Talladega on charges she accepted a bribe in exchange for providing a cell phone to an inmate, announced U.S. Attorney Joyce White Vance and U.S. Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General Special Agent in Charge Robert A. Bourbon.

A two-count indictment filed in U.S. District Court charges correctional officer STACIE MARIE GARDNER, 31, of Weaver, with accepting \$1,474, sent via Western Union in January 2015, in exchange for smuggling contraband into the prison. The indictment also charges that Gardner smuggled a cell phone into the prison and provided it to an inmate in exchange for the payment.

The maximum penalty for receipt of a bribe by a public official is 15 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. The maximum penalty for providing contraband to a federal prisoner is one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

DOJ OIG investigated the case, which Assistant U.S. Attorney Davis A. Barlow is prosecuting.

An indictment contains only charges. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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