



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, December 5, 2016
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Former Counselor at Federal Prison Pleads Guilty to Bribery Charge

LEXINGTON, Ky. – A former counselor at the federal prison in Lexington has pleaded guilty to smuggling tobacco into the prison in exchange for payments from inmates.

On Friday, 43 year-old Elianna D. Gill, formerly employed as a counselor at the Federal Medical Center in Lexington, pleaded guilty to receiving a bribe as a public official. Gill waived her right to be indicted by a grand jury and pleaded guilty to the charges brought by Kerry B. Harvey, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky.

According to her plea agreement, from February 2014 to August 2015, Gill smuggled tobacco into the prison facility for multiple inmates who paid her a total of \$5,500 in return. Prisoners incarcerated in federal correctional facilities, including FMC Lexington, are prohibited from possessing tobacco.

U.S. Attorney Harvey; John F. Oleskowitz, Special Agent in Charge, Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General, Chicago Field Office; and Amy Hess, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, jointly made the announcement.

The investigation was conducted by the Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew E. Smith prosecuted this case on behalf of the federal government.

Gill is scheduled to appear before U.S. District Judge Danny C. Reeves for sentencing on March 24, 2017. She faces a maximum sentence of 15 years of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and three years of supervised release. As a condition of her plea agreement, Gill must also repay all of the money she received from the offense.

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