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**FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER INDICTED FOR ALLEGEDLY CONSPIRING
WITH INMATES TO SMUGGLE CONTRABAND INTO DOWNTOWN CHICAGO JAIL**

CHICAGO — A federal correctional officer schemed with two inmates to smuggle cellular phones, synthetic marijuana and other contraband into the Metropolitan Correctional Center in downtown Chicago, according to an indictment returned in federal court.

RAFAEL LIZAK, 28, of Chicago, worked as a correctional officer at the MCC, a federal detention facility operated by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons. Over a several-month period last year, Lizak pocketed bribes in exchange for delivering contraband to FELIPE ZAMORA, 35, of Chicago, and CARLOS FUENTES, 41, of Chicago, who at the time were inmates at the MCC, the indictment states. Lizak obtained the contraband and bribe payments from Felipe Zamora's sister, GUADALUPE ZAMORA, 38, of Chicago, according to the charges.

The indictment was returned Thursday. It charges Lizak, Fuentes, Guadalupe Zamora and Felipe Zamora with conspiracy to provide a prohibited object to a prison inmate. Lizak, Felipe Zamora and Guadalupe Zamora are also charged with bribery. Arraignments in U.S. District Court in Chicago have not yet been scheduled.

The indictment was announced by John R. Lausch, Jr., United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois; Jeffrey S. Sallet, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago office of the FBI; and John F. Oleskowicz, Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Field Office of the U.S.

Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General. The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Sean J.B. Franzblau and Albert Berry III.

According to the charges, Felipe Zamora, Fuentes and others solicited orders for contraband from other inmates. After Lizak smuggled the items into the jail, Felipe Zamora worked with Fuentes and other inmates to sell and distribute them within the MCC. Felipe Zamora arranged for inmates or their associates to send payment to his sister, the charges allege.

The contraband included cellular phones, synthetic marijuana, and cigarettes, the indictment states.

The public is reminded that an indictment is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The conspiracy charge is punishable by up to five years in prison, while the bribery charge carries a maximum sentence of 15 years. If convicted, the Court must impose a reasonable sentence under federal statutes and the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

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