



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney Melinda Haag
Northern District of California**

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**FORMER CORNELL CORRECTIONAL MONITOR PLEADS
GUILTY TO SEXUAL ABUSE OF INMATE**

OAKLAND, Calif. - Basean George pleaded guilty in federal court in Oakland today to sexual abuse of a person in official detention, United States Attorney Melinda Haag announced.

In pleading guilty, George admitted that from September 2008 until Nov. 11, 2008, while employed as a Cornell Correctional Monitor at the Cornell Oakland Center (COC), in Oakland, he knowingly engaged in a sexual relationship with a federal inmate under his custodial supervision. While employed as a Cornell Correctional Monitor, George had sexual intercourse with the victim on several occasions while she was in official detention at the COC. The COC is a facility in which persons are held in custody by direction of or pursuant to a contract with the federal government to provide residential reentry services for federal prisoners.

George, 39, of San Leandro, Calif., was indicted by a federal Grand Jury on July 15, 2010. He was charged in a single-count indictment with Sexual Abuse of a Person in Official Detention, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2243(b). Under the plea agreement, George pled guilty to the single count of the Indictment.

George was arraigned on the Indictment on Aug. 5, 2010, and was released on a \$10,000 bond. He remains out of custody. The sentencing of George is scheduled for Feb. 2, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., before U.S. District Court Judge Claudia Wilken in Oakland. The maximum statutory penalty for violation of 18 U.S.C. §2243(b) is 15 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$250,000, plus restitution. However, any sentence following conviction would be imposed by the court after consideration of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the federal statute governing the imposition of a sentence, 18 U.S.C. § 3553.

Chinhayi Cadet is the Assistant U.S. Attorney who is prosecuting the case with the assistance of legal technician Vanessa Vargas. The prosecution is the result of an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Further Information:

Case #: CR 10-00540 CW.

A copy of this press release may be found on the U.S. Attorney's Office's website at www.usdoj.gov/usao/can.

Electronic court filings and further procedural and docket information are available at <https://ecf.cand.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/login.pl>.

Judges' calendars with schedules for upcoming court hearings can be viewed on the court's website at www.cand.uscourts.gov.

All press inquiries to the U.S. Attorney's Office should be directed to Jack Gillund at (415) 436-6599 or by e-mail at Jack.Gillund@usdoj.gov.

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