FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of North Carolina

THURSDAY - February 17, 2011

BUREAU OF PRISONS EMPLOYEE PLEADS GUILTY TO

DRUG TRAFFICKING CHARGE

RALEIGH - United States Attorney George E.B. Holding announced that in federal court today **NATHAN PRADY**, 32, of Creedmoor, North Carolina, entered a plea of guilty to attempting to possess with the intent to distribute 100 grams or more of heroin, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

A Federal Grand Jury returned a Criminal Indictment on December 9, 2010.

This case arose out of an investigation into drug trafficking activity taking place at the Federal Correctional Institution in Butner, North Carolina. The investigation revealed that on December 1, 2010, **PRADY** attempted to obtain eight ounces of heroin from a person **PRADY** believed to be a drug trafficker. The evidence showed that **PRADY** made several phone calls to a person he believed had heroin smuggled in from Texas. During these phone calls, **PRADY** negotiated for the purchase of eight ounces of heroin. **PRADY** also discussed the time and location for the drug transaction to occur. When **PRADY** arrived at the designated location to conduct the deal, he was arrested by law enforcement without incident. Based on the investigation, it is believed **PRADY** was to smuggle the heroin into the prison facility.

Based on the charge to which he pled guilty, **PRADY** faces a maximum penalty of forty years in prison. Sentencing is currently scheduled for the May 16, 2011, term of court.

Investigation of this case was conducted by the United States Department of Justice - Office of the Inspector General, the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, and the Granville County Sheriff's Office. Assistant United States Attorney Rudy E. Renfer represented the government.