

Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Eastern District of North Carolina

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Four Bureau of Prisons Correctional Officers Indicted by Federal Grand Jury

RALEIGH – United States Attorney Robert J. Higdon, Jr. announces that a federal grand jury sitting in Raleigh indicted four correctional officers employed by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) for making false statements surrounding three unrelated inmate deaths that occurred at the Federal Correctional Complex in Butner, North Carolina in 2019.

TYLER ROBISON, 41, **ADAM COCKERHAM**, 31, **LONNIE FAIRLCOTH**, 54, all of Creedmoor, and **ERIC STEPHENSON**, 37, of Angier, were each indicted on one count of making a false statement. The respective indictments allege that **ROBISON**, **COCKERHAM**, and **STEPHENSON**, in unrelated incidents involving the death of an inmate, made false entries on government forms documenting that they had completed rounds in an inmate housing unit when they had not. **FAIRCLOTH** is alleged to have made a false statement to an Office of Inspector General Special Agent during the course of the investigation. If convicted, they each face up to five years imprisonment and five years of supervised release.

The charges and allegations contained in the Indictments are merely accusations. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

The Department of Justice's Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted the investigation in this matter.
