



**U. S. Department of Justice**

*Lawrence Keefe  
United States Attorney  
Northern District of Florida*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**BUREAU OF PRISONS CORRECTIONAL OFFICER INDICTED  
FOR SEXUALLY ASSAULTING AN INMATE**

**TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA** – A federal grand jury in Tallahassee returned an indictment on July 7, 2020, charging Phillip Golightly, 38, of Quincy, Florida, with two counts of Sexual Abuse of a Ward. Golightly, a U.S. Bureau of Prisons Correctional Officer at Federal Correctional Institution Marianna, is charged with sexually assaulting an inmate while on temporary duty at Federal Correctional Institution Tallahassee. The indictment was announced by Lawrence Keefe, United States Attorney for the Northern District of Florida.

The indictment alleges that in November 2019, while on-duty as a Correctional Officer, Golightly sexually assaulted a female inmate at Federal Correctional Institution Tallahassee, while the inmate was under Golightly's custodial, supervisory, and disciplinary authority.

The jury trial for Golightly is scheduled for August 24, 2020, at 8:15 a.m. before the Honorable Chief U.S. District Judge Mark E. Walker at the United States Courthouse in Tallahassee. If convicted, Golightly faces a maximum sentence of 15 years in federal prison per count.

Assistant United States Attorney Lazaro P. Fields is prosecuting the case, which resulted from an investigation by the Department of Justice Office of Inspector General.

An indictment is merely an allegation by a grand jury that a defendant has committed a violation of federal criminal law and is not evidence of guilt. All defendants are presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial, during which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

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