

Department of Justice
Office of Public Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, July 16, 2021

Former Police Detective and FBI Task Force Officer Convicted of Bribery and Other Offenses

A federal jury convicted a veteran detective for the Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Police Department, who was also a task force officer with the FBI and a member of the Cumberland County Drug Task Force, today of bribery, drug distribution and making false statements.

According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Christopher Collare, 53, of Blythewood, South Carolina, used his official position to obtain sex from two women in exchange for agreeing to take actions in prosecutions. Specifically, in 2015, Collare agreed to accept sex in exchange for not appearing at an evidentiary hearing so that a criminal charge would be dismissed. In 2018, Collare agreed to accept sexual favors in exchange for taking steps to help reduce a potential sentence. Collare distributed heroin in 2016. He also lied in November 2015 on a federal form he completed during the process of becoming an FBI task force officer, and he made multiple false statements in an interview with federal agents in May 2018.

Collare was convicted of federal program bribery, bribery by a federal official, distribution of heroin, and six counts of false statements. Collare was taken into custody following the verdict. His sentencing date has not yet been scheduled. He faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison for federal program bribery, 15 years in prison for bribery by a federal official, 20 years in prison for distribution of heroin and five years in prison for false statements. A federal district court judge will determine any sentence after considering the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Acting Assistant Attorney General Nicholas L. McQuaid of the Justice Department's Criminal Division; Acting U.S. Attorney Bruce D. Brandler for the Middle District of Pennsylvania; Special Agent in Charge Michael J. Driscoll of the FBI's Philadelphia Field Office; and Special Agent in Charge Russell W. Cunningham of the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General's Washington Field Office made the announcement.

The FBI and the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General investigated the case.

Trial Attorney James I. Pearce of the Criminal Division's Public Integrity Section and Assistant U.S. Attorneys Carlo D. Marchioli and Phillip J. Caraballo are prosecuting the case.