



The City of New York  
Department of Investigation  
MARK G. PETERS  
COMMISSIONER

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### **DOI INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARREST OF CITY CORRECTION OFFICER ON CONTRABAND CHARGES**

Mark G. Peters, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), announced the arrest of a City Department of Correction (“DOC”) Officer on charges of bringing in contraband, specifically tobacco and marijuana, into the Otis Bantum Correctional Center (“OBCC”) on Rikers Island. DOI’s drug-sniffing dog, Gunner, was positioned at the front gate during a routine screening on Sunday night, January 21, 2018, at the 9:00 p.m. shift change and alerted on Correction Officer TORRAY RILES as he entered the facility where he is assigned. The case is being prosecuted by the Office of Bronx District Attorney Darcel D. Clark.

DOI Commissioner Mark G. Peters said, “This arrest highlights what DOI has repeatedly found: heightened security measures, like drug-sniffing dogs and robust front-gate screening, are essential to keeping contraband out of the City’s jails. DOI will continue to investigate these contraband cases and the screening of Correction Officers to determine that such screening is consistent and vigorous and that lawbreakers are caught.”

RILES, 35, of the Bronx, N.Y., was arrested Sunday night and charged Monday with Promoting Prison Contraband in the Second Degree and Official Misconduct, both class A misdemeanors; and Criminal Possession of Marijuana in the Fifth Degree, a class B misdemeanor. Upon conviction, a class A misdemeanor is punishable by up to one year’s incarceration and a class B misdemeanor is punishable by up to three months’ incarceration.

RILES was arraigned last night in Bronx Criminal Court. He was released on his own recognizance. His next court date is scheduled for March 15, 2018. RILES has been employed by DOC as a Correction Officer since December 2016 and receives an annual base salary of approximately \$43,042. DOC suspended RILES upon arrest.

According to the criminal complaint and DOI’s investigation, on Sunday, January 21, 2018, DOI’s drug-sniffing dog alerted on RILES as he entered the front gate of OBCC. When RILES was searched, he produced two medium-sized clear bags he had concealed in his underwear containing approximately 26 grams of marijuana. RILES also carried a clear backpack with four packs of Newport cigarettes and five bootleg DVDs vacuum-sealed in plastic, which could be used as a weapon if broken.

The investigation was conducted by DOI’s Office of the Inspector General for DOC, specifically, Investigators Ali Fayad, Lawrence Bond, Rhonda Young, and Robert Ellis; Special Investigator Stephen Dumas; Assistant Inspector General Carmelo Galarza; K9 Special Investigator Karla Bentson and K-9 Gunner, under the supervision of Assistant Inspector General Sony Fortune and Deputy Inspectors General Reginald Barometre, Steven Jones and Richard Askin, Inspector General Dana A. Roth, Associate Commissioner Paul Cronin, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Susan Lambiase, and First Deputy Commissioner Lesley Brovner.

Assistant District Attorney Joseph Marciano, assigned to the Public Integrity Bureau in the Bronx District Attorney’s Office, is prosecuting the case.

A criminal complaint is an accusation. The defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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