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LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

Secretary Gary Westcott



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Rayburn Correctional Center Inmate Sentenced to 60 Years for Various Charges

Louisiana law expressly indicates contraband at a correctional facility is illegal

Baton Rouge, LA - The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections has confirmed that a Rayburn Correctional Center (RCC) inmate has been sentenced to 60 years for multiple charges in Washington Parish surrounding an incident involving contraband.

Derrell Hilton, a 31-year-old inmate, was charged with and found guilty of Louisiana Revised Statue (R.S.) 14:402 Contraband in a Correctional Facility and La. R.S. 14:130.1 Obstruction of Justice by Tampering. Hilton was sentenced Nov. 5, 2025 in the 22nd Judicial District Court, Division E in Washington Parish by Judge William Burris.

The State of Louisiana filed a multiple offender bill on defendant Hilton for the contraband charge whereby Judge Burris vacated the prior sentence of the defendant and sentenced him to 60 years hard labor, and for the La. R.S. 14:130.1 charge, he received five years to run concurrent with the 60 years hard labor.

Hilton first entered the correctional system in Orleans Parish on Aug. 13, 2018 with an initial release date set for 2030. At RCC, the inmate tried to introduce 10 packets of buprenorphine, which is an opioid and naloxone.

“The judge’s sentence reflects that contraband within the correctional setting is never acceptable because it poses is a serious threat to safety and security,” said Travis Day, warden, Rayburn Correctional Center. “The Department has implemented numerous measures to combat contraband. In this case, it led to a correctional officer whose role is to enforce rules, maintain security, and ensure the safety of both inmates and staff within a correctional facility being injured.”

Contraband includes any type of weapon, firearm or any other item detrimental to the security of the facility. Cell phones or other communication devices, illegal drugs or controlled substances, tobacco, cigarettes, alcohol, pornographic images, tools that could aid in escape, and any explosive flammable materials or hazardous chemicals, which are all strictly prohibited.

Louisiana law expressly indicates that no person shall introduce or attempt to introduce or possess contraband on the grounds of any correctional facility in the state. The regulation also states that no person shall send, give or attempt to give contraband to an inmate. These actions may result in criminal charges, and the incarcerated person may also face disciplinary actions, lost visitation privileges or extended sentences.

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