



The City of New York
Department of Investigation

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Release #13-2025
nyc.gov/doi

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025**

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**FORMER NEW YORK CITY CORRECTION OFFICER SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR AND A DAY IN PRISON
FOR CONSPIRING TO SMUGGLE DRUGS AND OTHER CONTRABAND ONTO RIKERS ISLAND**

Jocelyn E. Strauber, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation (“DOI”), issued a statement today on the sentencing of STEPHANIE DAVILA, a former Correction Officer with the City Department of Correction (“DOC”), one of six defendants charged in separate contraband smuggling schemes at Rikers Island in April 2024.

DAVILA, 31, of Brooklyn, N.Y., who resigned from DOC just prior to the time of the offense, pled guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services wire fraud on August 7, 2024, and was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Lorna G. Schofield in the Southern District of New York to one year and a day in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She is scheduled to surrender on April 25, 2025. DOI conducted this investigation with the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) and the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, which prosecuted the case.

DOI Commissioner Jocelyn E. Strauber said, “Shortly after resigning, this former Correction Officer conspired with an inmate to traffic drugs and contraband onto Rikers Island, exploiting her prior employment at DOC to further destabilize the City’s jails and endangering staff and inmates. I thank the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York and the FBI for their continued partnership and commitment to hold accountable those who undermine the security of the City’s jails.”

According to court documents, DAVILA, who had just resigned as a Correction Officer from DOC at the time of the offense, conspired with KRISTOPHER FRANCISCO, an inmate at the facility, to smuggle contraband into the Anna M. Kross Center (“AMKC”) on Rikers Island in exchange for bribes, between July and August 2021. Specifically, DAVILA and FRANCISCO bribed another correction officer to induce the officer to smuggle contraband, including fentanyl, marijuana, and synthetic cannabinoids commonly known as “K2,” into AMKC. DAVILA resigned from DOC in May 2021. DAVILA and FRANCISCO were in a relationship at the time of the offense and are currently married.

DAVILA began employment at DOC in January 2018. At the time of her resignation in May 2021 she was assigned to Robert N. Davoren Center (“RNDC”) and was receiving a salary of approximately \$54,670.

As of today, in addition to DAVILA, the remaining five defendants have been sentenced:

- KRISTOPHER FRANCISCO pled guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services wire fraud and was sentenced in August 2024 to 37 months in federal prison and three years’ post release supervision.

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- Former Correction Officer JASON SKEET pled guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services wire fraud and was sentenced in June 2024 to 37 months in federal prison and three years' post release supervision and ordered to forfeit \$45,644.
- Former Riker's Island contractor KENNETH WEBSTER pled guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services wire fraud and was sentenced in September 2024 to 40 months in federal custody and three years' post incarceration supervision.
- Former Rikers Island Program Counselor SHANEQUA WASHINGTON pled guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services wire fraud and was sentenced in November 2024 to one year and one day in prison, followed by two years' post release supervision.
- Former Correction Officer CHANTAL DE LOS SANTOS pled guilty to conspiracy to commit honest services wire fraud and was sentenced in January 2025 to 15 months in federal custody and three years' post-release supervision.

DOI [released a report following the arrests in November 2024](#), finding DOC needs better controls to deter the trafficking of contraband by City Correction Officers and other DOC staff as well as Persons in Custody and making recommendations for improvement.

Commissioner Strauber thanked Matthew Podolsky, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York for the Office's partnership on this investigation, which was handled by the Public Corruption Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Adam Z. Margulies and Jonathan E. Rebold are in charge of the prosecutions. Commissioner Strauber also thanked the New York Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and its staff for their work on the investigation, and DOC Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie for her and her staff's cooperation.

At DOI, the investigation was conducted by Confidential Investigator Jorge Miranda in DOI's Office of the Inspector General for DOC, with assistance from Correction Officer Investigators Terrill Hughes and Andrew Walker who are assigned to DOI, and supervised by Inspector General Marissa Carro, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives Christopher Ryan, and Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Investigations Dominick Zarrella.

DOI is one of the oldest law-enforcement agencies in the country and New York City's corruption watchdog. Investigations may involve any agency, officer, elected official or employee of the City, as well as those who do business with or receive benefits from the City. DOI's strategy attacks corruption comprehensively through systemic investigations that lead to high-impact arrests, preventive internal controls and operational reforms that improve the way the City runs.

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