



Hamilton County Sheriff's Office

Jim Neil, Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE



SHERIFF NEIL WARNS “THINK TWICE”

Cincinnati, Ohio, February 8, 2017 – Hamilton County Sheriff Jim Neil warns offenders of the stiff penalties for using or distributing narcotics in and around the Hamilton County Justice Center.

Shortly after Sheriff Neil took office he formed a Jail Investigators Unit which has a proactive approach to investigating any and all leads to interrupt and confiscate drugs and other contraband. In 2016 alone these Jail Investigators had 348 reports generated because of drugs or drug paraphernalia attempted to be brought in through our Intake, and another 45 found along the unsecured jail perimeter. That's almost 400 separate reports last year alone of individuals attempting to get drugs into our jail.

Sheriff Neil stated, “You can see by the stats we're successful literally every day in confiscating these drugs. I want offenders to know they've been put on notice... you better think twice before attempting to bring drugs into our jail!”

A recent example is Lamario Gilbert. Mr. Gilbert was sentenced to one (1) year in the Ohio Department of Corrections prison. Knowing he was reporting to Court to be sentenced, Gilbert swallowed eleven (11) balloons containing various amounts of Marijuana and Suboxone. Through their various techniques Deputies and Jail Investigators determined within hours Gilbert had attempted to smuggle these drugs into jail by passing them through his bowels. As our Deputies were collecting these passed balloons Gilbert made another attempt to save some of the drugs and/ or destroy the evidence by quickly throwing two passed balloons into his mouth. As Gilbert was chewing and attempting to swallow Deputies were able to recover the evidence. Gilbert was recently indicted on six additional felony charges, including Possession of Drugs (F5), two counts of Illegal Conveyance of Drugs onto the Grounds of a Governmental Facility (both F3), two counts of Trafficking (F5), and one count of Tampering with Evidence (F3). Gilbert now faces up to a maximum of an additional 12 years of time.

MEDIA CONTACT: MIKE ROBISON

Regular Business Hours: M - F 8 am - 4 pm, mrobison@sheriff.hamilton-co.org Office (513) 946-6428

Evening or Weekend Hours: Mobile (513) 235-9952

Mugshot Requests: Identification@sheriff.hamilton-co.org or call (513) 946-6230

Sheriff Neil added, "When we find the drugs, know you're going to be charged and prosecuted to the fullest extent the law allows."