

PREBLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Eaton, Ohio 45320
Michael L. Simpson, Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 5, 2018

Contact: Sheriff Mike Simpson

A Preble County Grand Jury indicted a former corrections officer on February 5, 2018 for crimes related to transporting contraband into the jail.

The Preble County Sheriff's Office began an internal investigation on April 27, 2017 after learning that a staff member was accused of bringing contraband into the jail and receiving payment for doing so. The corrections officer, Jared Rivers, was immediately placed on paid administrative leave, pending the outcome of the internal investigation.

Based on the internal investigation, a pre-disciplinary conference was scheduled for Rivers on May 10, 2017, to allow him to answer to several policy violations. Rivers submitted his resignation to the Sheriff's Office on May 9, 2017.

During the course of the internal investigation, supervisors found probable cause to believe that crimes had been committed. After consultation with the Preble County Prosecutor's Office, a request was made to the Ohio Attorney General's Office for a special prosecutor to be assigned to this case.

Investigators continued the investigation over the last several months. The investigation determined that Rivers, on several occasions, delivered small packages to an inmate while he was working, and was paid by a third party to do so. Rivers was interviewed by investigators and cooperated with the investigation.

The grand jury returned a six-count indictment, charging Rivers with the following:

- (5) Counts of Bribery, all 3rd Degree Felonies
- (1) Count of Dereliction of Duty, a 2nd Degree Misdemeanor

Rivers was arrested without incident and housed in an adjoining county jail. He is scheduled to appear in Preble County Common Pleas Court on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 for his initial arraignment.