



**SHERIFF-CORONER DEPARTMENT
COUNTY OF ORANGE
CALIFORNIA**

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**SANDRA HUTCHENS
SHERIFF-CORONER**

February 7, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

On Thursday, February 7, 2013, at 9 a.m., David Lloyd Cass, 38 years of age and an employee of the Orange County Sheriff's Department, was taken into custody by investigators from the Orange County Sheriff's Department for two counts of CPC 68(a) – Officer Asking and Receiving a Bribe. These activities occurred from September 2010 through March 2012.

In January 2012, it was discovered that a legal runner was possibly smuggling contraband into the jail facility (Men's Main Jail in Santa Ana). An investigation was initiated regarding the allegations and enough evidence was collected to arrest the legal runner, Ha Duc Nguyen. Nguyen, 31 years of age from Norwalk, was taken into custody on Thursday, February 23, 2012 for bringing drugs into a jail facility, possession of marijuana for sale, and gang affiliation. She is being held on \$1,000,000 bail.

The investigation began after marijuana, tobacco, and a cellular phone were found during a search at the Men's Central Jail in late December of 2011. Nguyen, who is a legal runner, has had regular contact visits with Stephenson Kim, an inmate housed in the cell where the contraband was found. Nguyen visited Kim, who is a known gang member and in custody for homicide. Many of these visits occurred when Cass was supervising the visiting area.

Sheriff's personnel developed this investigation utilizing several investigative techniques including surveillance, a review of phone toll records, and reviewing records and video tape from the Men's Main Jail. During the investigation it was determined Cass had been communicating with Nguyen on numerous occasions. In addition, it was discovered Cass had received monetary items from Nguyen in exchange for allowing her to pass items to the inmate she was visiting.

Upon completion of the investigation, the Orange County Sheriff's Department submitted the case to the Orange County District Attorney's Office for review. A case has since been filed.

Cass has been employed by the Sheriff's Department as a Deputy Sheriff for the past seven (7) years and is assigned to Custody Operations. Cass was booked into the Santa Ana city jail.