



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor

Gary D. Maynard
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DPSCS and DOC Praised for Unprecedented Work Rooting out Corruption in Wake of Federal Sting

TOWSON, MD (April 16, 2009)--- Maryland's DPSCS Internal Investigative Unit and Division of Correction Security Operations and Intelligence Coordinating Units were praised today by the U.S. Attorney Office for their work that led to a major corruption bust that involved inmates and current and former correctional staff inside Maryland prisons.

Four current or former DOC employees in the Baltimore and Jessup region prisons, and 20 inmates housed in Cumberland, Hagerstown, Baltimore, Jessup, and Westover on the Eastern Shore were named in the federal probe.

The employees are alleged to have allowed contraband and improper relationships with inmates to foster growth of the Black Guerilla family gang. This gang activity inside prison led to crimes being committed on the outside, allegedly in part because cell phones and contraband had been smuggled in by staff.

Thirteen detectives from the DPSCS Internal Investigative Unit and intelligence officers from the DOC Intelligence Coordinating Unit and Security Operations played key roles in the case.

"This Department will not tolerate corruption among our employees," says DPSCS Secretary Gary D. Maynard. "Ninety-nine percent of our people are honest and hardworking. And in the last 20 months we have made great strides in our efforts to stamp out illegal gang related activities and to root out corrupt staff.

"Today's announcement by the US Attorney's Office should serve notice to those who would participate in illegal and gang related activities inside our institutions." The secretary also praised the work of intelligence officers and detectives who spent months on the case, as well as the US Attorney's Office, the US Drug Enforcement Agency, Baltimore City Police Department and State's Attorney's Office.

ATTACHED: Fact sheet outlining DPSCS' efforts to target illegal gang activity within our correctional facilities across Maryland.