



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Oct. 6, 2017

Contact: 601-359-5289, 359-5608 or 359-5689

MDOCOfficeofCommunications@mdoc.state.ms.us

CMCF Officer Caught with Drugs in Food Container and Arrested Today

JACKSON –A correctional officer was caught with marijuana and crystal methamphetamine in a food container after she reported to work today at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) in Pearl.

Kassie C. Gentry, 35, of Pascagoula, is charged with two counts of possession of controlled substances within facilities (Mississippi Code §47-5-198). She was taken to the Rankin County Detention Center.

Why Gentry had 360 grams of marijuana and 30 grams of methamphetamine is under investigation. She has worked for the Mississippi Department of Corrections since 2015, but will be recommended for termination.

Corrections Commissioner Pelicia E. Hall commended the officers who found the contraband during a search before Gentry could start her shift at 7 a.m.

“This is another example of good officers practicing zero tolerance,” Commissioner Hall said. “The Mississippi Department of Corrections has zero tolerance for anyone bringing in contraband. I was especially surprised to hear of this officer’s alleged actions considering a former prison nurse was just sentenced last week to serve four years in prison for bringing in contraband at another facility.”

If convicted, Gentry faces a \$25,000 fine and three years to seven years in prison. She would not be eligible for probation, parole, a suspended sentence, earned release supervision or any other reduction of sentence, based on state law.