



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

700 East Fourth Street
Charlotte, NC 28202

T (704) 336-2543 • F (704) 336-6118

www.mecksheriff.com

Garry L. McFadden
Sheriff

Rodney M. Collins
Chief Deputy Sheriff

Telisa E. White
Chief of Detention

Jason R. Beebe
Chief Deputy Sheriff

MEDIA ALERT

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CONTACT: Janet Parker

Public Information Manager

Janet.Parker@mecklenburgcountync.gov

O: (980) 314-5170

Healthcare Provider Employee Arrested and Charged for Bringing a Cell Phone to a Mecklenburg County Detention Center Resident

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) announced today that Samara Black, 26, a Discharge Planner employed by MCSO's resident healthcare services provider, Wellpath, was arrested for providing a cellular phone to a resident detained in the Mecklenburg County Detention Center. Ms. Black's assignment as a Discharge Planner at the Mecklenburg County Detention Center began June 19, 2020, and her employment with Wellpath was terminated this afternoon August 8, 2022.

MCSO opened an investigation after receiving information alleging that Black was smuggling contraband into the detention center. State law prohibits persons incarcerated from having cellular phones and it is a Class H felony for a person to provide a mobile telephone or any other communications device to any person in custody in a local confinement facility.

"This type of illegal activity is not tolerated by any persons working inside the detention facility and such actions only compromise the safety of the many hard working detention professionals who already face risks by the sheer nature of the profession. I applaud the efforts of MCSO staff and the cooperation of residents during this investigation," said Sheriff McFadden.

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