



STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Corrections

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Press Release

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Suspect arrested in drug supply to Nevada and California prisons

As part of an ongoing investigation into the source of illegal substances being introduced into correctional institutions in Nevada and California, a 30-year-old man was arrested Thursday evening in his Las Vegas home on suspicion of three felonies related to supplying drugs to the institutions as well as second-degree murder.

The Nevada Department of Corrections Office of the Inspector General and the Eastern Nevada Narcotics Task force served a warrant Thursday on the home of Hoza Del Collins, a former NDOC offender.

Officers discovered toxic substances believed to be used in the creation of synthetic drugs being supplied into Nevada and California prisons. Collins was arrested on suspicion of felony second-degree murder for supplying substances causing death; felony selling or transporting schedule 3, 4 or 5 controlled substances; and felony furnishing controlled substances to a state prisoner.

Collins was booked into the Clark County Detention Center. He was previously incarcerated in NDOC from Feb. 18, 2018, to Feb. 22, 2017, for burglary.

The arrest comes after a series of homicides in the Nevada prisons, where drugs are believed to have played a role in some of the killings.

NDOC officials say they are battling the introduction of synthetic drugs, which are made up of common household items such as bug killers (RAID), harsh cleaning agents (Drano), and others. Every individual reacts differently to the drug-laced paper. While some offenders overdose, lose consciousness, or have extreme behavioral changes – including violence -- some receive traumatic brain injuries or die.

To combat this, NDOC is working with multiple companies who have expert experience in fighting these issues through mail drug detection systems, illegal cell phone detection devices, and even AI tracking. NDOC is also setting up committees to help fight this drug issue, which will include former offenders, researchers, offender advocates, and IT experts.

The Nevada Department of Corrections is committed to building a safer community by striving to incorporate progressive best practices in all aspects of corrections. NDOC houses more than 12,000 persons with felony convictions in 18 facilities statewide. For more information visit www.doc.nv.gov.

The NDOC thanks the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and California Department of Corrections for assisting in the investigation and arrest.



Hoza Del Collins