



PRESS RELEASE

Final Defendant Sentenced for Federal Civil Rights Conspiracy and Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Offenses

Friday, May 31, 2024

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, District of
Columbia

WASHINGTON – Paula Paulette Harlow, 75, of Kingston, Massachusetts, was sentenced in U.S. District Court today to 24 months incarceration for her role in a conspiracy that created a blockade at a Washington, D.C. reproductive health care clinic to prevent the clinic from providing, and patients from receiving, reproductive health services.

The announcement was made by U.S. Attorney Matthew M. Graves, Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke for the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, and FBI Special Agent in Charge David J. Scott of the Washington Field Office's Criminal and Cyber Division.

Harlow is the 10th member of the conspiracy to be sentenced on charges of civil rights conspiracy and Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act violations. Earlier this month, U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly sentenced eight other members of the conspiracy.

Another of the defendants, the only one to plead guilty, Jay Smith, 34, of Freeport, New York, was sentenced to 10 months in prison and three years of supervised release in March 2023.

As the evidence at trial showed, the defendants engaged in a conspiracy to create a blockade at the reproductive health care clinic to prevent the clinic from providing, and patients from receiving, reproductive health services. As part of the conspiracy, many of the defendants traveled to Washington, D.C. from various northeast and midwestern states, to meet with Lauren Handy and participate in a clinic blockade that was directed by Handy and was broadcast on Facebook.

According to the evidence, on October 22, 2020, Handy –along with her co-conspirators Jonathan Darnel, John Hinshaw, William Goodman, Jean Marshall, Joan Bell, Herb Geraghty, Heather Idoni, and Paula Harlow, among others –forcefully entered the clinic and set about blockading two clinic doors using their bodies, furniture, chains, and ropes. Once the blockade was established, they live-streamed their activities. The evidence also showed that the defendants violated the FACE Act by using a physical obstruction to injure, intimidate and interfere with the clinic’s employees and a patient, because they were providing or obtaining reproductive health services.

DEFENDANTS

NAME	A G E	GUILTY OF	SENTENCE
Lauren Handy Alexandria, VA	30	Found Guilty on August 29, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violation of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act	Sentenced May 14, 2024, to 57 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
John Hinshaw Levittown, NY	69	Found Guilty August 29, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 14, 2024, to 21 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release

William Goodman Bronx, NY	5 4	Found Guilty August 29, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 14, 2024, to 27 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
Jay Smith Freeport, NY	3 4	Pleaded Guilty March 1, 2023, to Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced Aug. 17, 2023, to 10 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
Jonathan Darnel Arlington, VA	4 2	Found Guilty September 15, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 15, 2024, to 34 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
Jean Marshall Kingston, MA	7 4	Found Guilty September 15, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 15, 2024, to 24 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
Joan Bell Montague, NJ	7 6	Found Guilty September 15, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 15, 2024, to 27 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
Herb Geraghty Pittsburgh, PA	2 7	Found Guilty August 29, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 15, 2024, to 27 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release

Heather Idoni Linden, MI	59	Found Guilty August 29, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 22, 2024 to 24 Months Incarceration and Three Years of Supervised Release
Paula Harlow Kingston, MA	75	Found Guilty August 29, 2023, of Felony Conspiracy Against Civil Rights and Violating the FACE Act	Sentenced May 31, 2024 to 24 Months Incarceration

This case was investigated by the FBI’s Washington Field Office, with valuable assistance from the Metropolitan Police Department and the FBI Field Offices in Newark, New York City, Boston, Pittsburgh and Detroit provided valuable assistance. It was prosecuted by the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division and the Fraud, Public Corruption and Civil Rights Section of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia. The U.S. Attorneys’ Offices for the District of New Jersey, District of Massachusetts, Eastern District of Michigan, Eastern District of New York, and Southern District of New York; and FBI Field Offices in Newark, New York City, Boston, and Detroit provided valuable assistance.

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Updated June 5, 2024

Topic

CIVIL RIGHTS

Components

[Civil Division](#) | [Federal Bureau of Investigation \(FBI\)](#) | [USAO - District of Columbia](#) | [USAO - Massachusetts](#) | [USAO - Michigan, Eastern](#) | [USAO - New Jersey](#) | [USAO - New York, Eastern](#) | [USAO - New York, Southern](#)

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PRESS RELEASE

Former D.C. Corrections Officer Sentenced for Civil Rights Violation for Assaulting a Handcuffed Inmate

Marcus Bias, 28, a former District Department of Corrections Officer, was sentenced today in federal court to 42 months in prison for seriously injuring a handcuffed detainee who was not...

June 28, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Attorney and HUD Inspector General Host Safe Housing Summit in D.C.

Members of the Anacostia Coordinating Council, today, heard presentations and had discussions with U.S. Attorney Matthew M. Graves and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Inspector General Rae...

June 25, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Former Maryland Police Officer Found Guilty of Excessive Force

Philip Dupree, 40, a former officer with the Fairmount Heights, MD Police Department, was found guilty today in U.S. District Court of violating a man's civil rights.

June 17, 2024



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