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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WOMAN CHARGED WITH USING BATHROOM AT MAGISTRATES OFFICE TO TRY AND PASS DRUGS TO PRISONER

Pittsburgh PA ---- Sheriff Kevin M. Kraus announced today that an Allsion Park woman is in custody, charged with trying to use the bathroom at a Magistrate's Office to pass drugs to her boyfriend.

33-year-old Lauren Barricella is facing several charges including felony counts of contraband, criminal conspiracy and delivery after trying to use the bathroom at the office of Magisterial District Judge Tom Swan to pass deflated balloons containing suspected marijuana and heroin to Jesse Eaton, her incarcerated boyfriend.

The suspected drugs were discovered by court staff on December 18, 2023, on the bathroom floor, a facility that is used by both the public and inmates who are awaiting court cases.

Detectives from our office were notified of the discovery and after reviewing the court cases scheduled for December 13, 2023, before Judge Swan, determined that Eaton, currently in the Allegheny County Jail on drug related offenses, was the likely potential recipient of the drop.

Detectives then reviewed jail calls between Barricella and Eaton prior to the December date and afterwards with the conversations confirming the plan to transfer the suspected drugs.

Barricella was arrested without incident Monday evening at her home and transported to the Allegheny County Jail.

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