



Staff Contact: Daniel Spino  
[dspino@ndaajustice.org](mailto:dspino@ndaajustice.org)  
(703)519-1655  
[www.ndaa.org](http://www.ndaa.org)

The Honorable David Kustoff  
560 Cannon House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cotton  
326 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

March 26, 2025

Dear Congressman Kustoff and Senator Cotton:

I am writing on behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) to express our support of the Cellphone Jamming Reform Act and to express our gratitude for your leadership on this important public Safety issue. NDAA is the oldest and largest national organization representing state and local prosecutors across the country. With over 6,000 members nationwide, NDAA is recognized as the leading source of national expertise on prosecution and is a valuable resource for media, academia, government and community leaders.

I am also the elected District Attorney for San Diego County, California, the fifth largest county in the United States and know from my experience as a prosecutor the importance of the of the Cellphone Jamming Reform Act. The Cellphone Jamming Reform Act prevents contraband cellphone use in federal and state prison facilities by allowing state and federal prisons to use cellphone jamming systems to protect inmates, guards, and the public at large. Recently, we prosecuted a large scale Mexican Mafia case with the Mexican Mafia being one of the largest prison gangs in federal and state prisons and the cellphone was used by a Mexican Mafia shot caller in prison on a brutal murder to continue ordering violence and destruction in our community.

The use of contraband phones in State and Federal correctional facilities across the nation has been a consistent and serious issue with real safety concerns. Individuals with access to contraband phones can coordinate criminal activities both inside and outside the facility with little to no hinderance in communications. This can result in the continuation of illicit activities by the individual which may include drug trafficking, organized crime, and violent assaults. As recently as February of this year, 38 people, several of whom were already in prison, were sentenced for participating in an international drug trafficking operation originating in Mexico that spanned across the state of Georgia.<sup>1</sup>

In addition to aiding in the continuation of illegal activity, contraband phones within correctional

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<sup>1</sup> United States Attorney's Office Northern District of Georgia, Dep't. of Justice, *Thirty-Eight Defendants Sentenced in Massive Prison-Based Drug Trafficking Ring*, Feb. 12, 2025, available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndga/pr/thirty-eight-defendants-sentenced-massive-prison-based-drug-trafficking-ring>.

facilities can lead to inmates intimidating, threatening, or extorting victims, witnesses or even prison staff from behind bars. This can lead to victims or witnesses altering their testimony or denying to speak about the incident at all. Allowing the use of contraband phones by inmates to threaten or intimidate victims and witnesses can ultimately result in additional trauma and make the healing process more difficult for those most affected by the original illicit activity.

As we start a new Congress, NDAA encourages Members in both chambers to address the rampant use of contraband phones within correctional facilities to aid in combating the widespread abuse of illicit drugs particularly fentanyl that is plaguing our country.

Thank you for your efforts on this critical issue. We are confident that, with your leadership, we can disrupt the criminal activity that happens within State and Federal correctional facilities and ensure community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Summer Stephan". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Summer" and last name "Stephan" clearly legible.

Summer Stephan  
President  
National District Attorneys Association

