

# CLALLAM COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

MARK B. NICHOLS

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

223 EAST 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 11  
PORT ANGELES, WA 98362  
PHONE: 360-417-2301 FAX: 360-417-2469  
TOLL FREE FROM FORKS: 360-374-5324

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 16, 2022  
Port Angeles, Washington

### **Sequim Woman Sentenced to Five Years Prison for Drug Offenses**

*Clallam County Superior Court Cause No. 22-1-00074-05*

On September 15, 2022, Marie Haller (33) was sentenced to five years in prison for her plea to delivery of controlled substance – buprenorphine and attempted introduction of contraband in the second degree; both with a special allegation of recent release from incarceration.

According to court documents, Ms. Haller had just been released from prison on September 23, 2021, when less than two months later, she sent buprenorphine (also known as suboxone) disguised in mail into the Washington State Corrections Center for Women on two separate occasions. The case was investigated by the Department of Corrections Investigations and the Olympic Peninsula Narcotics Enforcement Team (OPNET).

Ms. Haller had a criminal history that includes four felonies for possession with intent to deliver controlled substances (heroin and meth) and one felony for unlawful use of a building for drug purposes. The State, represented by Michele Devlin, Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, recognized that Ms. Haller had appeared to have turned the corner on her addiction recently and accepted responsibility for her actions. However, the State requested the prison sentence because Ms. Haller had been given several opportunities to address her addiction in the past. The prior opportunities included drug court and a prison Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative (DOSA); neither of which were successfully completed. Ms. Haller was serving the community custody portion of her DOSA when she sent the controlled substances into the prison.

The five-year sentence was an agreed recommendation between the State and Ms. Haller. It is also the maximum sentence allowed by statute for her delivery charge.

The Clallam County Prosecuting Attorney's Office works collaboratively with federal, state and local partners, including OPNET, to address drug dealing within our community. The Prosecuting Attorney's Office and OPNET wish to remind the community that following the discovery of brightly-colored fentanyl pills that appear to have been deliberately designed to cater to young people, the DEA launched the "*One Pill Can Kill*" Public Awareness Campaign late last year in an effort to educate Americans about the dangers of fake pills. Additional information about the campaign may be found here:

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departments-justice-announces-dea-seizures-historic-amounts-deadly-fentanyl-laced-fake-pills>.

## **Office Information**

The Clallam County Prosecuting Attorney's Office employs over 25 people, including 14 attorneys. Clallam County, which includes Forks, Port Angeles and Sequim, has an approximate population of 78,000.

The Criminal Division represents the state and the county in criminal matters in the Clallam County District and Superior Courts. The Criminal Division is responsible for prosecuting all felonies in Clallam County and all misdemeanors in unincorporated areas of Clallam County as well as the Cities of Port Angeles and Sequim.

The Civil Division acts as the law firm representing the County and its agencies. The Civil Division advises and represents all of the County's elected officials and departments on a myriad of complex legal matters. The range of legal representation provided by this unit is expansive and covers virtually every aspect of civil practice.

The Child Support Division is wholly funded by and represents the Division of Child Support of the State of Washington. The Support Division carries out judicial establishment of paternity and child support, enforcements for failure to pay court-ordered child support, and modifications to existing child support orders. The Support Division also represents the State of Washington in collection actions on parents owing a duty of support.

For more information call:

Michele Devlin  
Chief Criminal Deputy Prosecuting Attorney  
(360) 417-2301

END