



Bomi Court Jails Man for Drug Possession

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit Court in Bomi County has sentenced defendant Watson Kollie to one year in prison at the Bomi Central Prison after finding him guilty of unlicensed possession and delivery of controlled drugs.

Resident Circuit Judge T. Ciapha Carey handed down the sentence as a deterrent to potential violators of Liberia's drug laws.

During the proceedings, Kollie expressed remorse, pleading with the court for leniency. He explained that financial hardship had driven him to accept tramadol from a friend to sell to pay his son's school fees.

"I am very sorry, Your Honor. I have not done this before. I was jammed, and I asked my friend for help, and he gave me the tramadol to sell because he did not

have money with him at the time. So when I took it from him, on my way to Tubmanburg, I was arrested with the substance. And I needed money to pay my son's school fees. I have three living children. Please, I am sorry, I will not do it again," Kollie pleaded.

On April 18, 2026, Kollie, a 29-year-old Liberian of the Belleh tribe and resident of Pipe Line, Montserrado County, was arrested at the Train Track checkpoint with one pack of tramadol tablets containing ten strips. Authorities valued the drugs at LD\$50,000 (US\$263).

The Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA) in Bomi confirmed the tablets were tramadol and charged Kollie with unlicensed possession and delivery of controlled substances. He was later indicted and arraigned on May 29, 2026, where he pleaded guilty in open court.

Judge Carey emphasized that the sentence was necessary to discourage others from engaging in drug-related crimes.