



# Department of Justice

## Office of the United States Attorney Western District of Wisconsin

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CONTACT: RITA M. RUMBELOW  
PHONE: (608) 264-5158  
TTY: (608) 264-5006

### **BELOIT MAN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS**

Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Brandon Hendrix, 26, Beloit, Wis., was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to two years in federal prison, without parole, for possessing three firearms as an unlawful user of marijuana and crack cocaine. Hendrix pleaded guilty to this charge on November 6, 2009.

On April 21, 2009, officers with the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force executed a search warrant at Hendrix's apartment in the Allied Drive neighborhood. The warrant was issued because a confidential informant working with the police had purchased a small quantity of crack cocaine from Hendrix earlier that day. The informant told police that Hendrix had several weapons next to him when he sold the crack.

When the officers executed the warrant, Hendrix was high on crack and marijuana, and he said he had been a daily marijuana user for years. Officers recovered a fully loaded SKS rifle, a Ruger pistol, and a shotgun. Hendrix said when he heard the officers enter his apartment he almost shot them because he thought he was the target of a home invasion.

Federal law prohibits unlawful users of controlled substances from possessing firearms and ammunition. The charge against Hendrix was the result of an investigation conducted by the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

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