



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney John W. Vaudreuil  
Western District of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DECEMBER 9, 2010  
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CONTACT: PETER M. JAROSZ  
PHONE: (608) 264-5158  
TTY: (608) 264-5006

## EAU CLAIRE MAN CONVICTED OF SELLING CRACK COCAINE

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Andre G. Simmons, 31, Altoona, Wis., was convicted yesterday of distributing crack cocaine following a three-day trial in federal court in Madison. The defendant waived his right to a jury trial and the case was tried before U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb.

Evidence presented at trial demonstrated that between June 24, 2009 and July 22, 2009, Simmons distributed crack cocaine five times in the Eau Claire, Wis. area. A confidential informant, working at the direction of the West Central Drug Task Force, negotiated the purchase of the drugs with Simmons. Simmons then directed other people he knew to actually deliver the crack cocaine to the confidential source, who turned the drugs over to the police. Simmons distributed crack cocaine valued at approximately \$1,200.

U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for March 23, 2011. Andre Simmons faces a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison. Simmons has two prior state felony convictions involving cocaine.

The charges against Andre G. Simmon were the result of an investigation conducted by the West Central Drug Task Force. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Peter M. Jarosz.

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