



# Department of Justice

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## **MADISON WOMAN SENTENCED FOR USING RESIDENCE TO DISTRIBUTE CRACK COCAINE**

Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Elena Smith, 24, of Madison, Wis., was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge William M. Conley to 12 months and one day in federal prison for allowing her residence to be used to store, manufacture, and distribute crack cocaine. Smith pleaded guilty to this charge on May 20, 2010.

Beginning in September 2009, the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force started making controlled buys of quarter ounce quantities of crack cocaine from Smith's boyfriend, Dennis Rogers, near Smith's residence on the East Side of Madison. The Task Force subsequently purchased crack cocaine from Raymone Houston on five occasions in or near Smith's residence.

On February 3, 2010, officers executed a search warrant at Smith's house and recovered scales, residue, and \$2,000. Smith admitted that she allowed Rogers and Houston to use her residence to store, manufacture, and distribute crack cocaine. Officers also executed a search warrant at a nearby hotel where Smith had rented a room for Rogers. In that hotel room, officers recovered 113 grams of crack and 96 grams of powder cocaine.

Rogers and Houston have pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute and to possess with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. Their sentencing hearings are scheduled for August 5, 2010.

The charge against Smith was the result of an investigation conducted by the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

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