



Department of Justice

United States Attorney John W. Vaudreuil
Western District of Wisconsin

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CONTACT: PETER M. JAROSZ
PHONE: (608) 264-5158
TTY: (608) 264-5006

ALTOONA MAN SENTENCED TO TWENTY YEARS FOR DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Andre G. Simmons, 31, of Altoona, Wis., was sentenced Friday, April 1, by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to twenty years in prison without parole for distributing crack cocaine. This prison term will be followed by six years of supervised release. Andre Simmons was found guilty of five counts of distributing crack cocaine after a trial before Judge Crabb on December 7-8, 2010,

Andre G. Simmons was charged with his cousin, Muhammad Shimar Simmons, of Eau Claire, Wis., of distributing crack cocaine in the Eau Claire and Altoona area. Muhammad Simmons was sentenced on March 15, 2011 by Judge Crabb to seven years in prison without parole. He pleaded guilty to distributing crack cocaine on December 11, 2009.

In sentencing Andre G. Simmons, Judge Crabb remarked on his extensive criminal record and his manipulation of others. "You are not only a drug dealer, you are a manipulative drug dealer," Judge Crabb commented. The evidence at trial showed that Simmons would use women with whom he had a relationship to deliver crack cocaine after he set up the sales.

The charges against both men 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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