



Department of Justice

Office of the United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 20, 2010
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MERRILL MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO MANUFACTURING METHAMPHETAMINE

Madison, Wis. - Stephen P. Sinnott, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Chuck Groff, 38, Merrill, Wis., pleaded guilty yesterday to conspiring with others to manufacture methamphetamine from June - November 2009.

At the plea hearing, Groff admitted that he conspired and agreed with numerous other persons to secure ingredients, such as pseudoephedrine pills, used to manufacture methamphetamine. Groff then provided a portion of the methamphetamine he cooked as payment to the persons who had supplied the pseudoephedrine.

One of the persons with whom Groff conspired, Paul Rasmussen, was sentenced in federal court on May 27, 2010, to five years in federal prison for manufacturing methamphetamine.

Groff faces a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison because of two prior state drug convictions. U.S. District Judge William M. Conley scheduled Groff's sentencing for September 15, 2010.

The charges against Chuck Groff are the result of an investigation conducted by the Merrill Police Department, Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, and Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of this case is being handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert A. Anderson.

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