



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

**EAU CLAIRE MAN SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS
FOR DISTRIBUTING CRACK COCAINE**

Madison, Wis. - John W. Vaudreuil, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Muhammad Shimar Simmons, 31, of Eau Claire, Wis., was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to seven years in prison without parole for distributing crack cocaine. This prison term will be followed by three years of supervised release. Simmons pleaded guilty to this charge on December 11, 2009.

Muhammad Shimar Simmons was charged with his cousin, Andre Simmons, also of Eau Claire, Wis., of distributing crack cocaine in the Eau Claire and Altoona area. Andre Simmons was found guilty of five counts of distributing crack cocaine after a trial before Judge Crabb on December 7-8, 2010, and his sentencing is scheduled for April 1, 2011.

The charges against both Simmons 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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