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DETROIT DUO PLEADS GUILTY TO DISTRIBUTING OXYCONTIN

CHARLESTON, W. Va. – Two Detroit, Michigan men entered pleas today to charges stemming from their roles in distributing oxycontin in Nicholas County, West Virginia. Jack Deon Cooper, 41, entered a guilty plea to distributing oxycontin, and Albert Sims, 62, admitted he aided and abetted others in the distribution of oxycontin.

The convictions stem from an investigation conducted by the Central West Virginia Drug and Violent Crime Task Force. Cooper, aided by Sims, traveled from Detroit to Craigsville, West Virginia to sell 145 oxycontin 80 mg pills to a confidential informant for \$15,000. A portion of the money, five thousand dollars, was to pay for a previous drug debt. The two men were arrested immediately following the controlled drug purchase. Both face up to 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine when sentenced on January 19, 2011.

The West Virginia State Police, the Nicholas County Sheriff's Department and the Summersville Police Department jointly conducted the investigation. Assistant United States Attorney William King is handling the prosecution.

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