

PRESS RELEASE

Erik C. Peterson
United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wiw

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Contact Person

Rita M. Rumbelow
Assistant U.S. Attorney

MADISON MAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CRACK COCAINE

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Leroy Sharp, 31, of Madison, Wis., was sentenced today by Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 20 years in prison, without the possibility of parole, for distributing a total of nine grams of crack cocaine. Sharp pleaded guilty to this charge on January 29, 2009.

Sharp distributed a little over 5 grams of crack cocaine on May 20, 2008, to Willie Davis. Davis, in turn, sold it to an undercover officer and a confidential informant. After Davis's subsequent arrest at the Highlander Motel, Davis cooperated against Sharp and Odell Dobbs, another source of crack cocaine.

On November 14, 2008, Judge Crabb sentenced Dobbs to 262 months in prison and on March 20, 2009, she sentenced Davis to ten years in prison. Both Dobbs and Sharp received lengthy sentences because of their significant criminal histories, which include prior drug convictions and prior violent felony convictions.

The charge against Sharp was the result of an investigation conducted by the

Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force and Drug Enforcement Administration.

The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M.

Rumbelow.

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