



PRESS RELEASE

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MADISON MAN SENTENCED FOR COCAINE POSSESSION

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Christopher Villalpando, 23, of Madison, Wis., was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb to 70 months in federal prison, followed by six years of supervised release, for possession of cocaine with intent to distribute. Villalpando pleaded guilty to the charge on November 6, 2008.

Villalpando was charged after officers located 355 grams of cocaine, a handgun, and approximately \$33,000 of drug proceeds in a safe belonging to him. Judge Crabb increased Villalpando's sentence because of his lengthy criminal history that began with a disorderly conduct while armed conviction at age 13. Judge Crabb also noted that Villalpando was on state probation for a 2003 felony drug conviction when he committed this offense.

The charges against Villalpando were the result of an investigation conducted by the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force, the Drug Enforcement

Administration, and Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith P. Duchemin.

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