



PRESS RELEASE

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**FEDERAL JUDGE SENTENCES SHEBOYGAN
PIMP AND HEROIN TRAFFICKER TO 25 YEARS IMPRISONMENT**

United States Attorney James L. Santelle announced today that Federal District Court Judge Rudolph T. Randa sentenced Milwaukee native and former Sheboygan resident Jason Guidry (born in December 1981) to 25 years imprisonment following Guidry's conviction on three sex-trafficking counts and one count of possession with intent to distribute heroin. The sex-trafficking counts involved three separate females.

Evidence introduced at Guidry's sentencing showed that he controlled his "stable" of prostituted females by addicting them to his heroin, and then further induced their prostitution by manipulating and threatening to manipulate their supply of heroin. As part of its presentation to Judge Randa, the prosecution presented expert testimony from Dr. Selahattin Kurter, who is one of a handful of Wisconsin doctors board certified in Addiction Medicine. Dr. Kurter testified about the addictive properties of heroin, its long-term effects on the brain, the onset of heroin withdrawal, and the coercive power of the drug on those addicted to it. In his sentencing comments, Judge Randa quoted Dr. Kurter's statement that "heroin is the scourge of our nation."

In making the public announcement of the sentence imposed on Guidry, United States Attorney Santelle stated: ■Judge Randa's sentence was appropriate under all the facts and circumstances presented to him by this office. Mr. Guidry's conduct was especially pernicious in that he used a highly addictive and often deadly drug to manipulate these victims into selling their bodies in the sex trade." Santelle noted that this was the first federal conviction of a pimp in Wisconsin who used an addictive drug to control the trafficking activities of his victims.

Santelle also stated: ■The investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases in Eastern Wisconsin is among the highest priorities of my office, and we will continue to pursue the perpetrators of this heinous conduct with all of the resources available to us.●

The case was investigated by detectives from the Sheboygan Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph R. Wall.

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