

United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley District of North Dakota

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Fort Yates Man Sentenced for Drug & Gun Charges

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on May 16, 2008, William D. Sandland, 51, of Fort Yates, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland. Sandland was found guilty by a federal jury on February 14, 2008, on charges of possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance and possession of a firearm by an unlawful user of a controlled substance.

Judge Hovland sentenced **Sandland** to serve six years and six months in Federal prison, to be followed by four years of supervised release. **Sandland** was ordered to pay \$200 in special assessments to the Crime Victim's Fund.

On November 6, 2007, a confidential informant went to **Sandland's** home on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and purchased methamphetamine from **Sandland**. On November 30, 2007, law enforcement personnel obtained a search warrant and entered **Sandland's** home and discovered methamphetamine and several firearms there.

The case was investigated by the Metro Area Safe Trails Task Force, Bureau of

Sandland News Release May 16, 2008 Page 2

Indian Affairs, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, and Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Metro Area Safe Trails Task Force includes officers from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Bismarck and Mandan Police Departments, Burleigh and Morton County Sheriff's Offices, North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and North Dakota Parole and Probation.

Special Assistant United States Attorney Paul Emerson prosecuted the case.