

*United States Attorney's Office  
Northern District of Iowa*



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**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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For further information contact:  
C.J. WILLIAMS  
(319) 363-0091  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

**FORMER CEDAR RAPIDS POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED TO 6 MONTHS PRISON  
FOR VIOLATING WOMAN'S CIVIL RIGHTS**

United States Attorney Matt M. Dummermuth announced today that a former Cedar Rapids police officer who violated a woman's civil rights was sentenced today to 6 months in federal prison.

**KEVIN SIMS**, age 36, from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, received the prison term after a January 18, 2008, guilty plea to one count of depriving another of civil rights under color of state law.

At the guilty plea, **SIMS** admitted he was a patrol officer with the Cedar Rapids Police Department. On a day in the spring of 2004, at approximately 1:00 a.m., **SIMS** stopped at a bar in Cedar Rapids while he was in uniform and on duty to conduct a bar check. While there, **SIMS** saw and said hello to a woman patron of the bar he knew from prior bar checks.

Approximately one-half hour after **SIMS** conducted the bar check, he used emergency lights on his police car to stop the woman as she drove down Center Point Road in Cedar Rapids. Though required by Cedar Rapids Police Department policy, **SIMS** did not alert a dispatcher he had stopped a vehicle.

When **SIMS** got out of his police car and approached the woman, she told him she had a suspended driver's license. Under Iowa law, she was subject to arrest. Normal police procedures would have required **SIMS** to take her identification and call her name in to the dispatcher to check on her driving status. **SIMS** did not do so. **SIMS** told the woman to drive to Daniels Park, which was nearby. She believed she was not free to leave and had to comply with **SIMS'** orders.

Once at the park, **SIMS** and the woman had sexual intercourse. **SIMS** engaged in the intercourse while still on duty, in his police uniform, with his firearm still in his holster, and while acting under color of law. The woman voluntarily engaged in the sexual intercourse believing that, by doing what **SIMS** wanted, she would escape any criminal charges. **SIMS** did not arrest the woman, did not issue a citation for criminal conduct, and did not report the traffic stop to the dispatcher or his supervisor, contrary to Cedar Rapids Police Department policies.

In June 2007, **SIMS** was interviewed about the incident by two FBI agents and at first, **SIMS** lied to the agents. When confronted by the agents with other information, **SIMS** admitted he had sexual intercourse with the woman.

**SIMS** was sentenced in Cedar Rapids by Magistrate Judge Jon Stuart Scoles. **SIMS** was sentenced to 6 months in federal prison. A special assessment of \$25 was imposed, a fine of \$2,000, and he will serve 1 year on supervised release after he serves his prison sentence. There is no parole in the federal system. **SIMS** was released on the bond previously set and is to surrender to the Bureau of Prisons on a date yet to be set. As a condition of his guilty plea, **SIMS** waived his right to appeal his conviction or sentence. As a further condition of the plea, **SIMS** was required to resign as a police officer and is forever barred from serving as a sworn law enforcement officer any where in the United States, its territories, or possessions.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney C.J. Williams and was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with the cooperation and assistance of the Cedar Rapids Police Department.