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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: August 24, 2026

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WABASSO MAN FOUND GUILTY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE SALE IN THE FIRST DEGREE

REDWOOD FALLS, MN --- A Redwood County jury found Darren Duane Roush, 53, of Wabasso guilty of one count of Aid and Abet the Sale of a Controlled Substance in the First Degree. The jury deliberated for approximately three hours on August 13, 2026, before delivering the guilty verdict around 5:20 p.m.

According to the criminal complaint, evidence discovered during the investigation, and testimony provided at trial, on March 29, 2023, Roush aid and abetted the sale of 28 grams of methamphetamine for \$450 to a confidential informant during a controlled buy, supervised by the Agents from the Brown Lyon Redwood Renville Drug Task Force (BLRR DTF). The sale was arranged between Miranda Shubert and the confidential informant (CI). Evidence showed Shubert and Roush were in a significant relationship and resided together on a property in rural Wabasso. Roush and Shubert arrived at McDonald's in a maroon van Roush was known to regularly use. Zachary Taylor was identified as the individual driving the van. The CI arrived at McDonalds in their own vehicle. The CI then got into the backseat of the van and gave \$450 in pre-recorded DTF funds to Shubert and spoke with Roush. The conversation between Roush and the CI included a discussion of the increase in his methamphetamine price. Roush informed the CI his prices had increased because his source's prices had increased. Roush then directed Shubert to get the methamphetamine from a third vehicle that had arrived and parked near the van. That third vehicle was driven by Michael Truelove, Roush's source. At Roush's direction, Shubert exited the van and retrieved 28 ounces of methamphetamine from Trulove's vehicle. Shubert came back to the van and gave the CI the methamphetamine. The CI left the van, got into her own vehicle and drove back to a predetermined location where she gave DTF agents the methamphetamine. The methamphetamine was sent to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for confirmatory testing and weight.

Redwood County Attorney Shannon Ness, who prosecuted the case, told the jury in her closing argument, "While Roush never touched the money or the drugs, he still aided and abet this drug sale. Just because his hands didn't touch the drugs or money does not mean his hands are clean. By his own admission he knew a drug sale was going to take place in the McDonald's parking lot. He was Truelove's contact. He was the CI's contact. He was the one who set the price for the meth. The vehicle he regularly used provided them with transportation to the sale. He was present during the transaction. His hands are dirty. Just as dirty as Ms. Shubert's because he used her to complete his drug sale."

Roush will be sentenced on October 2, 2026, at the Redwood County Courthouse.

The hard work of the BLRR Drug Task Force took another dangerous controlled substance off the streets and out of the hands of those who utilize these dangerous substances for their own profit.