



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

February 6, 2006

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CHARGES FILED AGAINST DENVER-AREA MINISTER

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has filed charges today against a man accused of sexually assaulting a teenager he had been counseling.

Michael Peters (dob: 02-06-70) is charged with *sexual assault on a child by a person in a position of trust* (F4) and *sexual assault on a child, pattern of abuse* (F3).

The charges allege that Peters initiated a sexual relationship with a 17-year-old girl whom he knew through his role as a minister, choir director and counselor. The young woman had been the victim of an earlier sexual assault and the charges allege that Peters was counseling her when he began sexually assaulting her. The victim came forward with her parents recently to report the assaults.

Peters has been released from custody on a \$100,000 bond and is scheduled to be formally advised of the charges on February 21, 2006 at 9 a.m. in Denver County Court, room 12T.

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The filing of a criminal charge is merely a formal accusation that an individual(s) committed a crime(s) under Colorado laws. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. *See* Colo. RPC 3.6