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Mitchell R. Morrissey, District Attorney - Second Judicial District
201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 801, Denver, CO 80202

Bus. Phone: 720-913-9000
Fax: 720-913-9035

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025

ESCALADE ESCAPADES END IN INDICTMENT

A Denver Grand Jury has returned a 26-count indictment against two men accused of stealing high-end vehicles, often Cadillac Escalades, by obtaining computerized key codes that enabled them to make new vehicle keys.

Carlos Romero (dob: 08-26-75) and **Ronnie Garcia** (11-11-79) are charged by indictment with violating the Colorado Crime Control Act (F2), conspiracy to commit aggravated motor vehicle theft and theft (F4 and F5), 10 counts of first-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft (F3), criminal mischief and conspiracy to commit criminal mischief (F4 and F5), and 8 counts of theft (F3 and F4).

The charges allege that in 2005, Romero and Garcia would target specific vehicles and get the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) from the vehicle's dashboard. The charges allege the VIN was used to contact various car dealerships to obtain a computerized key code that in turn was given to a locksmith to make a key for the vehicle.

Romero is in the custody of the Department of Corrections. Garcia was arrested today and is in custody in the Denver County Jail; his bond is set at \$100,000. Court dates are still pending.