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NEWS RELEASE

August 28, 2006

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TORREZ FOUND NOT GUILTY BY REASON OF INSANITY

In a one-day trial to the court, Amber Torrez has been found not guilty by reason of insanity in the murders of 46-year-old Masfin Gezahgn and 55-year-old John Hand.

Torrez was charged with first-degree murder in the March 29, 2004 stabbing death of Gezahgn, a Denver cab driver; she was also charged with two counts of first-degree murder, aggravated robbery and forgery in the March 28, 2004 stabbing death of Hand, the founder of Colorado Free University.

After a day of testimony that included two psychiatrists and the stipulated report of a third, Denver District Court Judge Christina Habas found that Torrez was legally insane at the time of the murders. Torrez will be committed to the Colorado Mental Health Institute in Pueblo for an indeterminate time.