



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

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OFFICER AND DEPUTY CHARGED IN SEPARATE INCIDENTS, NO CHARGES FILED IN CONVENTION INCIDENT

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a Denver sheriff deputy in connection with an assault that occurred in May.

Daniel Steckman (dob: February 1974) is charged with *third-degree assault* (M1).

The charge alleges that on May 29, 2008 at about 1 p.m., Steckman assaulted an arrestee during the intake process at the Denver City Jail. Steckman has been served a Criminal Summons and Complaint and is scheduled to appear in Denver County Court on October 7, 2008.

In an unrelated incident, Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a Denver police officer in connection with a serious on-duty car crash that occurred in June.

Wilbur Hall, III (dob: June 1978) is charged with *careless driving resulting in serious bodily injury* (TO2).

The charge alleges that Hall was driving in a careless manner on June 21, 2008 when he drove his patrol car at a high rate of speed without emergency lights or siren and crashed into a car, seriously injuring the driver. The crash occurred at 6th Avenue and St. Paul Street. Hall has been served a Criminal Summons and Complaint and is scheduled to appear in Denver County Court on October 10, 2008.

The Denver District Attorney's Office has completed its legal review of an assault allegation made against a Denver police officer in connection with an incident that occurred on August 26, 2008 and has concluded no state criminal charges are fileable against the officer. As always, the standard for determining whether criminal charges may be filed is whether a prosecutor believes, based upon training, experience and a fair consideration of all of the evidence, that there is a reasonable likelihood of conviction by an impartial jury after considering all reasonable defenses. This determination is separate and apart from any administrative proceedings or sanctions that the employing agency may consider.

The incident in question occurred as police officers were taking a man into custody in the midst of a crowd of people, several of whom confronted the officers. A thorough review of the all of the evidence compels the conclusion that a woman failed to comply with repeated lawful police orders to move back. She then grabbed an officer's baton, pushing it away. The officer pushed back, using the baton, and the woman fell to the ground. She was not injured. It was these facts that were considered in the decision.