



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

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MAN ARRESTED AND CHARGED IN "TRAVELERS" TYPE SCAM

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a man accused of scamming a 61-year-old victim out of thousands of dollars for worthless tree trimming work and other home repairs. The man was arrested at the victim's home last week by investigators with the DA's Economic Crime Unit after an alert bank employee reported a suspicious transaction.

Charles Boswell (dob: 02-24-80) is charged with *theft from an at-risk adult* (F3).

On April 14, 2009, the victim was approached by a man who said his trees needed trimming. The man and several companions started working in the victim's yard. They told the victim they would also pull a stump and clean and repair his gutters but did not do this work. They later demanded more than \$2,000 for the work and cashed the victim's check at a Key Bank branch. The men returned the next day and spread a thin concrete patching material around the victim's home without permission, charging the victim more than \$4,000. The victim wrote another check, and an alert teller at Key Bank declined to cash the check. The suspects then took the victim to another bank, where the victim withdrew cash from a line of credit.

In the meantime, Key Bank personnel made a report to the Denver District Attorney's Office. Investigators responded immediately to the victim's home. Charles Boswell and two others were contacted there. Boswell was arrested and two trucks were towed. Both of those trucks had been obtained through an identity theft scheme in Arizona. Charges are pending in that case. The investigation is continuing and additional arrests are likely.

Boswell remains in the Denver County Jail; his bond is set at \$75,000. He is scheduled to appear in Denver County Court, room 12T, on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 9 a.m. to be formally advised of the charge.

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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*