



# DenverDA

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***

March 4, 2009

Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025

### **WOMAN CHARGED IN DUI DEATH OF TODDLER**

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a woman accused of causing a fatal crash that left a 17-month-old toddler dead last weekend and seriously injured two adults.

**Shenell Phillips** (dob: 04-19-80) is charged with *child abuse resulting in death* (F2), two counts of *vehicular homicide* (F3 and F4), four counts of *vehicular assault* (F4 and F5), two counts of *DUI*, and several traffic counts.

The charges allege that at about 3 a.m. on February 28, 2009, Phillips was driving drunk in the wrong direction in eastbound lanes of 56<sup>th</sup> Avenue when she crashed head on into another car with two people inside. A third car then hit that vehicle. The toddler, whose family is friends with Phillips, had been a passenger in Phillip's vehicle and died as a result of injuries suffered in the crash. The two women in the vehicle that Phillip's crashed into were taken to Denver Health Medical Center.

Phillips remains in custody in the Denver County Jail; her bond is set at \$250,000. She is scheduled to appear in Denver County Court on March 6, 2009 at 9 a.m. to be advised of the charges.

-30-

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*