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NEWS RELEASE

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MAN GUILTY IN COLD CASE SEXUAL ASSAULT

A 34-year-old man accused in a sexual assault case that occurred in 1998 has been found guilty by a Denver jury today.

Christopher Dewayne Parra (dob: 06-16-75) was convicted of three counts of *first-degree sexual assault with a deadly weapon* (F2) and *second-degree kidnapping* (F2).

In December 1998, Parra forced his way into a woman's home in Denver and sexually assaulted her repeatedly at knifepoint. The case was unsolved until the Denver Police Department Cold Case Unit reviewed it and a DNA match identified Parra as a suspect. Denver's Fugitive Unit then learned that Parra worked as an oil worker in Wyoming and he was arrested there on May 6, 2009.

The case was prosecuted by Denver Deputy DA Julie Hamel and Denver Deputy DA Kenneth Boyd.

Parra remains in custody and is scheduled to be sentenced on June 8, 2010.

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The Cold Case DNA Project is an ongoing collaborative effort involving Denver Police detectives, the Denver Police Department Crime Lab and the Denver District Attorney's Office with grant funding through the National Institute of Justice.

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