



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



DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Gerald R. Whitman, Chief of Police

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

October 11, 2010

Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025 or Sonny Jackson, 720-913-6534

MAN SENTENCED IN 2008 SEXUAL ASSAULT

A man who was convicted earlier of two counts of sexual assault in an attack that took place in October 2008, has been sentenced. Denver District Court Judge Kenneth Laff imposed an indeterminate-to-life sentence with a minimum of 48 years in prison at a sentencing hearing held Friday.

Rodney Smith (dob: 08-04-67) was found guilty earlier this year of *sexual assault-victim helpless* (F3) and *sexual assault-victim incapable* (F4) in connection with an attack that occurred in the 9900 block of East Yale Avenue.

On October 16, 2008, a 52-year-old woman was out celebrating her friend's birthday when she disappeared from her group. The victim was sexually assaulted by Smith in his rental car in the garage of the apartment complex where he both lived and worked. She awoke the next day in an unknown car without clothes. The case remained open until a DNA match was confirmed in July 2009 and Smith was identified as a suspect.

Smith was remanded into the custody of the Colorado Department of Corrections and was taken from the courtroom to begin serving his sentence.

-30-

The Cold Case DNA Project is an ongoing collaborative effort involving the 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.