



DenverDA

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DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

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TWO NEW "COLD CASES" FILED

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged two men in separate sexual assault cases – both the result of Denver's Cold Case DNA Project and the dedicated work of the Denver Police Department.

Lavone Barron (dob: 03-12-55) is charged with two counts of *first-degree sexual assault* (F2) in connection with a June 16, 1996 attack on a 27-year-old woman. The victim was asleep in her home and awoke to find a man holding a knife to her throat. She was sexually assaulted. A suspect was not identified at the time but Barron was identified as a suspect through Denver's Cold Case DNA Project. He is currently serving a 48-year prison term for burglary.

Guillermo Barron-Baca (DOB: 06-25-75) is charged with *second-degree kidnapping* (F2) and *first-degree sexual assault* (F2) in connection with a September 14, 1996 attack on a 33-year-old woman. The victim accepted ride home with Barron-Baca and another man but was taken to an empty field and was brutally attacked by them. The other man was arrested within days and eventually pleaded guilty in the case. Barron-Baca was recently identified as the second suspect through the Cold Case DNA Project. He is currently serving a 48-year prison term for sexually assaulting a woman in Lafayette.

(There is no relation between these defendants nor is there any connection between the cases other than the fact they both resulted from the Cold Case DNA Project.)

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.

Barron and Barron-Baca are both scheduled to appear for formal advisement on May 5, 2006 in Denver Court, room 12T, at 9 a.m.