



# DenverDA

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## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

### ***JOINT NEWS RELEASE***

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### **CONVICTION IN '99 SEXUAL ASSAULT Denver Jury says "guilty" in DNA case**

The Denver Police Department's Crime Laboratory and the Denver DA's Office has helped bring some closure to a victim of a brutal sexual assault in 1999 that went unsolved until DNA linked the attack to a serial rapist in Missouri.

**Bobby Collins** (dob: 05-18-74) was found guilty this week of *second-degree kidnapping* (F2), two counts of *first-degree sexual assault* (F3) and *attempted aggravated robbery* (F4). The Denver jury who heard the case only needed an hour to convict him on all counts.

The attack occurred in the early morning hours of December 4, 1999 as the victim, who was then 23 years old, was walking home from work. She was nearly home when a man grabbed and dragged her to a deserted stairwell at a school building at 18<sup>th</sup> and Emerson where he assaulted her.

In 2002, the Denver Police Crime Laboratory used new DNA technology and re-submitted a DNA profile to the CODIS database. In 2003, the St. Louis, MO Police Department alerted the Denver Police Department that they had a serial rapist in their custody who had at one time been living in Denver. They ran his DNA and confirmed he was the man who had assaulted the Denver victim.

The Denver DA's Office contacted the victim to update her on the status of the case and to determine if she wanted to go forward on a criminal case in Colorado. She did. As a result of her courage and determination Collins faces an indeterminate-to-life prison sentence when he returns to Denver District Court in May. Collins is currently serving a 540-year prison sentence in Missouri.