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NEWS RELEASE

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GUILTY PLEA IN CRIME SPREE

A man accused in a 2005 crime spree that included an attempted murder and a series of attempted car-jackings pleaded guilty yesterday.

Joseph Yacteen (DOB: 03-25-79) pleaded guilty to *attempted first-degree murder – extreme indifference* (F2).

Yacteen was wanted for failing to appear in a Denver court case when he fled from RTD transit security officers on August 7, 2005. During his attempt to flee, he set a crime spree into motion that included an attempted car-jacking in the 1400 block of Stout and Champa Streets, a shooting and attempted car-jacking a few minutes later in the 1400 block of Stout, and a car-jacking nearby in which he forced four men out of a vehicle and fled the scene. He was taken into custody nearly 24-hours later after barricading himself in a vacant home at 2720 Josephine Street.

Yacteen will appear in Denver District Courtroom 16 for sentencing on October 2, 2006 at 8:30. He faces a sentence of up to 48 years in prison.

Patricia Vail (DOB: 11-15-81), who is charged with *accessory to crime* (F4) for allegedly helping Yacteen, is scheduled to appear for a status conference on August 22, 2006 at 8:30 in Denver District Courtroom 16.