



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

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THREE CHARGED IN HIGH SPEED CHASE*

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged three men accused of ramming a police car and starting a high speed chase through the Denver metro area.

Juan Banelos (DOB 08-26-1983) is charged with *first-degree assault on a peace officer* (F3) and *first-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft* (F4).

Ernesto Robles (DOB 07-19-1989) is charged with *first-degree assault on a peace officer* (F3), *conspiracy to commit first-degree assault on a peace officer* (F4), *first-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft* (F4) and *vehicular eluding* (F5).

Juan Delacruz (DOB 07-17-1979) is charged with *conspiracy to commit first-degree assault on a peace officer* (F4), and *first-degree aggravated motor vehicle theft* (F4).

At approximately 2:00a.m., on September 6, 2007, Banelos, Robles, Delacruz, and two juveniles were under surveillance by the Denver police department for investigation of motor vehicle theft. The charges allege that Robles and Delacruz realized they were under surveillance and rammed an undercover officer's vehicle near I-25 and 20th street to try to recover the surveillance footage. The charges further allege that Robles and Delacruz continued trying to ram the police vehicle during a lengthy pursuit that ended in Adams County when their car crashed and they were arrested. Banelos and the juvenile suspects were arrested in the same area after they arrived in a separate vehicle and led officers on a short foot pursuit.

Banelos has been released from custody on a \$50,000 bond. His second advisement is set for September 21, 2007, at 9:00a.m. in Denver County courtroom 12T. Robles has been released from custody on a \$50,000 bond. His second advisement is set for September 27, 2007, at 9:00a.m. in Denver County courtroom 12T. Delacruz remains in custody in the Denver County Jail. His bond is set at \$50,000.

The investigation continues and additional charges may be filed later.

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**This news release was updated on 09-18-07 to correct the list of charges that were filed against each defendant.*

The filing of a criminal charge is merely a formal accusation that an individual(s) committed a crime(s) under Colorado laws. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. *See Colo. RPC 3.6*