







DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT Gerald R. Whitman, Chief of Police

JOINT NEWS RELEASE October 7, 2008

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

SERIAL THIEF NABBED THROUGH DNA PROJECT

A man known only by his DNA and charged as a "John Doe" with a series of five car break-ins and thefts last year has now been identified by name, and he faces two new cases all linked by DNA.

Francisco Baeza-Martinez (dob: 12-07-86) is charged with multiple counts of criminal trespass to vehicles, theft, and criminal mischief in seven separate felony criminal cases.

The charges allege that Baeza-Martinez repeatedly broke into cars and stole personal items primarily from vehicles in an area north and west of downtown Denver for at least the last two years. He remains in custody in the Denver County Jail.

Baeza-Martinez was identified through the work of the DNA Burglary Project, a joint effort of the Denver Police Department Crime Laboratory, Denver police detectives, and the Denver District Attorney's Office. Federal funding for the project expired, but the City and County of Denver provides the necessary funding to continue this important and effective project.

-30-

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