



# DenverDA

Mitchell R. Morrissey, District Attorney - Second Judicial District  
201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 801, Denver, CO 80202

Bus. Phone: 720-913-9000  
Fax: 720-913-9035

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025

### **THREE CHARGED IN MORTGAGE SCAM**

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged three men accused of stealing thousands of dollars in a mortgage scam from an elderly woman who is now facing foreclosure. The charges were filed last week; the defendants surrendered and were booked yesterday.

**Scott Steven Richardson** (dob: 04-27-73), **Thomas Sarantinos** (dob: 11-08-76), and **Anthony Sarantinos** (dob: 08-04-75) are each charged with *theft from an at-risk adult* (F3).

Richardson, through his company Absolute Lending Solutions in Northglenn, Colorado, offered to refinance the victim's home to help lower her monthly payment. The charges allege that Richardson instead added Anthony Sarantinos to the property title and refinanced the home to take out nearly \$30,000 in cash that was split between Richardson, Anthony Sarantinos and Thomas Sarantinos. The charges further allege that in an effort to hide the theft, Richardson provided phony mortgage payment coupons to the victim so that it appeared she was making lower monthly payment to Absolute Lending Solutions. The victim now owes nearly twice as much on her mortgage and faces monthly payments nearly twice as much as before she refinanced. She is facing foreclosure.

All three defendants surrendered for arrest yesterday. They have been released from custody on \$50,000 bond. They are scheduled to appear in Denver County Court, room 12T, on February 19, 2008 at 9 a.m. to be formally advised of the charges.

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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