



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

April 16, 2009

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CHARGES FILED IN '95 COLD CASE

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a man accused in a 1995 sexual assault of a college student in Denver.

George Vallez (dob: 02-27-59) is charged with fourteen counts of *first-degree sexual assault* (F2), two counts of *attempted sexual assault* (F3) and one count of *third-degree sexual assault* (M1).

The charges allege that on July 18, 1995, Vallez entered the victim's home in the 2200 block of south High Street through a window, tied her up and repeatedly assaulted her while threatening her. A suspect was not identified at the time, but the case was reviewed as part of Denver's Cold Case Project and Vallez was identified as a suspect through the work of Denver police detectives and the Denver Crime Lab. The victim, who was 21 at the time, now lives in Italy and has been notified of the developments in the case.

Vallez is currently in the custody of the Colorado Department of Corrections where he is serving a 112-year prison sentence for a 1997 burglary/sexual assault that also occurred in Denver. He is scheduled to be advised of the new charges on April 29, 2009 at 9 a.m. in Denver County Court, room 12T.

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The Cold Case DNA Project is an ongoing collaborative effort involving Denver Police detectives, the Denver Police Department Crime Lab and the Denver District Attorney's Office with grant funding through the National Institute of Justice.

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