



# DenverDA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **MAN SENTENCED IN WIFE'S DEATH**

A man who murdered his wife and then fled the country with their daughter has been sentenced to the maximum prison sentence possible in connection with the case.

**Hilario Martinez-Fabela** (dob: 10-21-72) pleaded guilty earlier to *second-degree murder* (F2) and *second-degree kidnapping* (F4). He was sentenced to the maximum of 60 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections last Friday, May 21, 2010, by Denver District Court Judge Christina Habas.

On June 15, 2007, Martinez-Fabela was involved in an altercation with his wife, 32-year-old Araseli Martinez-Fabela, and brutally beat her to death. He fled to Mexico with their young daughter, who was 7 at the time. The daughter was found later in Mexico and was safely returned to family in Denver two weeks later.

Following months of work by the Denver Police Department's homicide unit, Fugitive Apprehension and Location Group (FLAG) and US Marshals Service, Martinez-Fabela was arrested in Mexico in December 2007 on a Denver arrest warrant. It took another year to complete the extradition process; the US Marshals Service returned him to Denver on December 11, 2008. He pleaded guilty to second-degree murder and second-degree kidnapping last November; in exchange for his guilty plea the original first-degree murder charge was dismissed.