



# DenverDA

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## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### ***JOINT NEWS RELEASE***

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### **CHARGES FILED IN 2000 COLD CASE MURDER**

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged two people in connection with the murder of a woman that occurred in June 2000.

**John Vazquez** (dob: 05-27-82) and **Marie Lynn Marone** (dob: 10-29-72) are each being charged with *first-degree murder after deliberation* (F1) and two counts of *first-degree felony murder* (F1).

On June 23, 2000, the body of a 36-year-old woman, Renee Ealy, was found in her apartment in the 1100 block of South Cherry Street. The investigation into her murder was re-opened last year after new information came to light that identified Vazquez and Marone as suspects and resulted in their arrest and charges. The charges allege that in June 2000, Vazquez and his then-girlfriend, Marone, were living in Denver when Vasquez stabbed and killed the victim, Renee Ealy, as Marone watched.

These charges were made possible by Denver Cold Case detectives receiving new information, additional work completed by the Denver Police Department Crime Lab, and the assistance of out-of-state law enforcement agencies. Had it not been for people coming forward with new information, the advances in technology, and the collaboration between law enforcement agencies, this case may have remained unsolved.

Vazquez was located in Boise, Idaho and Marone was located in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Denver detectives worked closely with local law enforcement in both cities and credit their assistance with the successful outcome of the investigation. Vazquez and Marone remain in custody in those cities and now face extradition.

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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 and assistance from Colorado Senator Mark Udall and Colorado Senator Michael Bennet.*

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*