



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

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THREE CHARGED IN THEFT OF TRADE SECRETS

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged three men in connection with an elaborate plan to steal a company's proprietary and customer information. The victim is an electrical engineering firm whose information was allegedly stolen and given to a competitor.

Charles "Doug" Belcher (dob: 07-08-60), **Gustav Eicher** (dob: 04-12-70) and **Matthew Stotz** (dob: 02-11-82) are each charged with three counts of *theft* (F3, F4), three counts of *conspiracy to commit theft* (F3), *computer crime* (F3), *conspiracy to commit computer crime* (F4), *theft of trade secrets* (M1) and *conspiracy to commit theft of trade secrets* (M2).

The charges allege that while working for Electric Power Systems International, Belcher, Eicher and Stotz stole hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of proprietary and customer information and conspired to provide it to a direct competitor. The charges further allege that after they downloaded information to portable hard drives, they deleted tens of thousands of computer files from the victim's computers that were critical to the company's business.

Belcher surrendered earlier this week in Boulder on a warrant for his arrest; Eicher and Stotz surrendered at the Jefferson County Jail. Their Denver court dates have not yet been set.

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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

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