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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



DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Robert White, Chief of Police

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025 or Sonny Jackson, 720-913-6028

GUILTY PLEA 2008 ATTEMPTED MURDER/SEXUAL ASSAULT COLD CASE

A man accused in a brutal stranger attack on a woman in 2008 has pleaded guilty in connection with the case today, the result of Colorado's arrestee DNA law (Katie's Law) and the work of Denver's Cold Case Project.

Manuel McGee (dob: 06-24-80) pleaded guilty to *first-degree assault (F3)* and *attempted sexual assault (F4)*.

The 32-year-old victim was walking home alone in the early morning hours of July 8, 2008 when she was attacked by an unknown man in an area near 14th Avenue and Decatur Street. She was sexually assaulted and nearly choked to death, but survived and was able to reach her home following the attack. The case was unsolved until Denver police detectives were alerted to a DNA match after McGee was arrested in Lakewood in 2011 for aggravated motor vehicle theft. His DNA was taken at the time of that felony arrest and submitted to CODIS.

McGee faces 25-years in prison when he is sentenced in May.

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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.