



# DenverDA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **CHARGES FILED IN SHOOTING INCIDENT**

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged three people in connection with a pursuit and shooting that occurred in northwest Denver last week.

**Chuck Montoya** (dob: 01-28-78), **Jude Montoya** (dob: 07-20-91) and **Michael Valdez** (dob: 12-24-74) are each charged with four counts of attempted first-degree murder (F2) and five counts of first-degree assault (F3).

The charges allege that on January 16, 2013, the defendants were in a vehicle that eluded police. During the ensuing chase, numerous shots were fired at officers. During the gunfire, a Denver police officer was shot at through a patrol car windshield and was injured. The vehicle crashed into a tree at 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Osage Street, and eventually all three defendants were taken into custody.

A female passenger in the vehicle was arrested but is not being charged in connection with the case at this time. An additional suspect, John Montoya (dob: 03-24-75), died at the scene.

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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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