



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 ASSAULT

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has charged a man today accused in the kidnapping and sexual assault of a woman more than a decade ago.

Dony Salazar (dob: 09-17-82) is charged with *second-degree kidnapping* (F2) and *sexual assault with a deadly weapon* (F2).

The victim, who was 40 at the time, was attacked while waiting at a bus stop at 38th Avenue and Tejon Street the morning of December 16, 2000. The charges allege that Salazar grabbed her and forced her at gunpoint into the backyard of a nearby vacant home where he repeatedly sexually assaulted her. No one was arrested in the case at the time; it was reopened as part of Denver's Cold Case Project.

Salazar is currently serving a 20-year prison sentence for aggravated robbery. He is scheduled to be formally advised of the new charges on May 29, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in Denver County Courtroom 2100.

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The Cold Case DNA Project is an ongoing collaborative effort between 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.

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*