



NEWS RELEASE

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FIVE INDICTED IN AUTO AND ID THEFT RING

A man and several others accused of running a car theft ring that victimized people all over the metro area have been indicted by a Denver Grand Jury. The indictment is the result of work by the Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force and several area police departments including Arvada, Denver, Lakewood, Westminster, Wheat Ridge and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office.

Steven Taylor (dob: 06-01-76) is charged with violating the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act (F2), 12 counts of *aggravated motor vehicle theft* (F4, F6, M1), multiple counts of *theft* (F4) and *possession of methamphetamines* (F6).

Justin Murdock (dob: 07-23-85), **Christopher Leach** (dob: 01-20-67), **Desiree Jordan** (dob: 09-26-79) and **Renee Swenson** (dob: 04-25-88) are also charged by indictment facing similar charges of conspiracy, aggravated motor vehicle theft, identity theft, forgery, and theft.

The 33-count indictment alleges that Taylor—with the help of co-defendants—obtained control over various motor vehicles and their contents with the common goal of buying, selling and trading stolen property in exchange for meth. More than 20 victims have been identified in a series of thefts that began last summer, with losses totaling about \$92,000.

Desiree Jordan and **Renee Swenson** remain at large and are wanted. Anyone with information about them should contact their local law enforcement agency.