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NEWS RELEASE

November 12, 2014

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GUILTY PLEA IN KIDNAPPING IN COLD CASE FROM 1995

A man charged with the kidnapping and sexual assault of a teenage girl in 1995 has pleaded guilty in connection with the case today.

Markie Lee Peoples (dob: 12-20-72) pleaded guilty to one count of *kidnapping a victim of sexual assault* (F2).

Peoples kidnapped and sexually assaulted the 14-year-old victim in March, 1995 after offering her a ride. The case remained unsolved at the time. In 2004, the case was reviewed in an attempt to utilize advances in DNA technology to identify potential suspects. Although biological material had been located in the victim's clothing, it was insufficient to develop a DNA profile. In June 2013, the case was again reviewed by the Denver Crime Lab using new DNA technology to develop a profile. They submitted the profile to CODIS and the Denver Police Department was notified that Markie Peoples had been identified as a match.

He will face up to 20 years in prison when he is sentenced on Monday, January 5, 2015, in Denver District Courtroom 4H.

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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.