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NEWS RELEASE

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GUILTY PLEA AND SENTENCE IN 2011 DOUBLE MURDER

A man accused of the brutal murder of two men in their Denver home in 2011 has pleaded guilty and was sentenced to prison today.

Daryl L. Rasmussen (dob: 09-27-55) pleaded guilty to second-degree murder (F2) and second-degree murder, heat of passion (F3) and was immediately sentenced to 30 years in prison, the maximum under the guilty plea agreement.

Rasmussen was indicted last December by a Denver Grand Jury for the January 2011 murder of 63-year-old Ronald Ford and 56-year-old Ramiro Sanchez in their home in the 100 block of Stuart Street. After the murders, Rasmussen stole their car, identities and money and then fled the state. Rasmussen had been a housekeeper and caregiver for the victims and had been staying at their home in the months that preceded the murders.

More than a dozen family members of Ronald Ford and Ramiro Sanchez were present in Denver District Court this morning to share their support of the maximum sentence; many provided emotional statements or letters about the two men, noting the impact of their lives and that they were committed to helping others.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Joe Morales, who prosecuted the case, commended family members for their patience in the face of delays in the justice process as well as their endurance of inaccurate, sensationalized media stories. Also of note in the conclusion of this case was the tireless work of the Denver Police Department and Grand Jury Investigator Teresa Wertsch; their tenacity was instrumental in bringing closure to these horrific and senseless murders.

Rasmussen's 30-year prison sentence will run concurrent with a Texas parole sentence.