



# DenverDA

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## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### ***JOINT NEWS RELEASE***

April 22, 2014

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### **MAN SENTENCED IN 2000 COLD CASE ASSAULT**

A man who has pleaded guilty to kidnapping and sexually assaulting a woman more than a decade ago has been given the maximum prison sentence possible under the terms of a guilty plea agreement.

**Dony Salazar** (dob: 09-17-82) pleaded guilty earlier this year to *kidnapping of a victim of sexual assault*. (F2) and *crime of violence* (SE). He was sentenced yesterday to 40 years in the Colorado Department of Corrections. Salazar was already serving a 20-year prison sentence for aggravated robbery when he was charged in the 2000 case.

The victim, who was 40 at the time, was attacked while waiting at a bus stop at 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Tejon Street the morning of December 16, 2000. The defendant 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, but it was reopened as part of Denver's Cold Case Project and Salazar was identified as the attacker.

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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.*