



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

January 21, 2015

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FOUR CHARGED IN CHIHULY ART THEFT

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged four people in connection with the theft of Dale Chihuly artwork from a display last summer at the Denver Botanic Gardens.

Alex Brook (dob: 01-17-92) and **Joseph Parnell** (dob: 07-18-78) are both charged with theft (F4), criminal mischief (F4) and tampering with evidence (F6).

Sean Sorensen (dob: 09-03-94) and **Auvia Bellamy** (dob: 09-27-95) are charged with theft (F4).

The charges allege that on August 22, 2014, the four defendants unlawfully entered the Botanic Gardens and stole several pieces of Chihuly artwork that were on display. The charges further allege that Brook and Parnell later took several glass cattails and left them in a corn field near Strasburg, Colorado. The glass orb was recovered; the cattails were located but had been destroyed.

Brook, Parnell and Bellamy have been released from custody on \$5,000 bond each. Sorensen remains in custody; his bond is also set at \$5,000.

Brook is scheduled to appear in Denver County Courtroom 2100 on January 26, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., to be advised of the charges. Bellamy will be advised on January 30, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. Parnell will be advised on February 2, 2015, at 1:30 p.m. Sorensen has already been advised of the charges and is scheduled for a preliminary hearing on February 3, 2015, at 8:30 a.m.

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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