



DenverDA

Mitchell R. Morrissey, District Attorney - Second Judicial District
201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 801, Denver, CO 80202

Bus. Phone: 720-913-9000
Fax: 720-913-9035



DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Robert White, Chief of Police

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

August 17, 2015

Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025 or Sonny Jackson, 720-913-6028

500th HIT FROM KATIE'S LAW

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey announced today the 500th Denver “hit” resulting from a Colorado law that took effect in 2010, requiring biological samples to be taken from all adults arrested for new felony offenses.

This landmark “hit” did result in a filed case – Michael Hosier was identified as a suspect in a December 2014 burglary after his DNA was found at the scene. He was formally charged today with 2nd degree burglary and theft. The charges allege that he and two others broke into an office and stole several computers.

“Katie’s Law is working just as we had hoped; we are solving cases that have no other leads and would otherwise remain unsolved, and we are catching criminals before they have a chance to victimize people again,” Morrissey said.

Under the provisions of SB09-241 – Katie’s Law – biological samples are taken from adults arrested for felony offenses and are put into the CODIS database if and when felony charges are filed.

Of the 500 DNA hits in the last five years, 21 are linked to homicides, 73 to sex assaults, 177 to burglaries, 54 to robberies, 14 to arsons, 29 to assaults and 122 to property crimes. While not every hit results in a solved crime and becomes a prosecutable case, approximately 35% of the CODIS hits in Denver have resulted in cases being filed by the Denver District Attorney’s Office.

Katie’s Law was sponsored in the Colorado General Assembly by then-Senator John Morse who says the bill was a highlight for him. “As a former police chief I know that you catch a criminal for one crime but they may have committed 50 others. Katie’s Law gives us a clearer picture and the ability to connect those cases.”

The measure passed with help from Jayann Sepich, whose daughter Katie is the measure’s namesake. Sepich was pleased to hear of the 500th hit, saying, “The most important thing to me is that it’s working, and 500 hits within 5 years is a sign that it is working very well.”