



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE –

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MAN CHARGED IN MURDER OF HOMELESS MAN

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a Louisiana man accused in the shooting death of a man in early November in south Denver.

Makhail Anthony Purpera (dob: 08-27-87) is charged with two counts of *first-degree murder* (F1) and one count of *aggravated robbery* (F3).

The charges allege that on or about November 5, 2016, Purpera shot and killed 54-year-old Wayland Busby while trying to steal marijuana and other belongings from him. Busby was living in a tent near S. Platte River Drive and Dartmouth Avenue when his body was found by a Denver Park Ranger during a routine check of the area.

Makhail Purpera remains in custody in the Denver Detention Center. He is scheduled to appear in Denver District Courtroom 4H for a preliminary hearing on January 23, 2017, at 1:30 pm.

Purpera is also wanted in Gonzales, Louisiana for two counts of attempted murder in connection with a shooting that occurred there on August 22, 2016.

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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