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## ***NEWS RELEASE –***

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### **GRAND JURY INDICTS 19 IN MOTOR VEHICLE/BURGLARY/IDENTITY THEFT CRIMINAL OPERATION**

A Denver Grand Jury has returned a 99-count indictment against 19 named defendants in connection with an alleged criminal enterprise involving over 90 victims and hundreds of thousands of dollars of stolen motor vehicles and other property, destruction of property, identity theft and other criminal activity.

The indictment is the result of a months-long investigation and collaboration by and between the Denver District Attorney's Economic Crime Unit, Denver Police Department, and the Metro Auto Theft Task Force.

Alleged ringleaders **Pablo Bleacher** (dob: 10/16/1993), **Noah Ferris** (dob: 06/26/1995), **Jordan Goetsch** (04/09/1997), **Jory Ingram** (02/25/1996), and **Michael Rodgers** (02/25/1992) are each charged with one count of violation of the *Colorado Organized Crime Control Act-COCCA* (F2). They and the remaining 14 co-defendants are additionally variously charged with other felonies, including *aggravated motor vehicle theft* (F4, F5, F6), *second degree burglary* (F3, F4), and *identity theft* (F3, F4). The indictment was handed down October 4, 2017.

The indictment alleges that from at least between November 2015 and July 2017, with various members joining at various times, members of the criminal enterprise and associates stole an aggregate amount of more than \$600,000 worth of motor vehicles; stole an aggregate amount of more than \$40,000 worth of property while committing garage burglaries, motor vehicle trespasses, identity theft, and other thefts; caused an aggregate amount of more than \$30,000 worth of property damage while committing garage burglaries and motor vehicle thefts; and that members of the enterprise shared money, proceeds from the sale of stolen property, stolen property, stolen identification documents, stolen financial transaction devices, stolen automobiles, transportation, controlled substances, food, clothing, and living quarters to accomplish the enterprise's goals.

The indictment alleges that members of the enterprise obtained the stolen property primarily through burglarizing secured residential parking garages attached to apartment, condominium and business complexes located primarily in the Downtown Denver, LoDo, LoHi, and RiNo areas of Denver, often using stolen motor vehicles to facilitate those burglaries. Enterprise members and associates allegedly circumvented building/garage security measures by several methods, including, but not limited to, following a tenant's vehicle into the garage, either on foot or in a stolen motor vehicle; breaking entry into residential complexes by forcing open lobby doors; ramming stolen cars through garage entry and exit control arms and gates; operating stolen garage door openers; and using public entrances during regular business hours. Once inside a secured garage area, enterprise

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members rapidly went through the garage and checked vehicle doors to determine if the doors were unlocked, and steal property from the vehicles. If a key was located inside the vehicle, the enterprise members would then steal that vehicle. This process was known and described by enterprise members as “car-hopping.”

Bleacher, Ferris, Goetsch, Ingram, and Rodgers are in custody. Court hearings have not yet been scheduled.

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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