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NEWS RELEASE –

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WOMAN CHARGED IN CAR CRASH NEAR CIVIC CENTER

Denver District Attorney Beth McCann has formally charged a woman in connection with a one-car crash on Colfax Avenue that sent the vehicle rolling into Civic Center park, in flames, and seriously injuring the vehicle's passenger.

Yessica Nevarez-Villa (dob: 11-29-1995) is charged with one count of *vehicular assault-under influence of alcohol or drugs* (F4) and one count of *vehicular assault-serious bodily injury* (F5). Charges were filed October 31, 2017.

The charges allege that in the early morning hours of October 27, 2017, Nevarez-Villa was driving her vehicle eastbound on W. Colfax Avenue at a high rate of speed and failed to navigate the circle north of Civic Center park, resulting in the car rolling over into the park, where it was found, on its hood, ignited in flames. Witnesses were able to remove Nevarez-Villa from the vehicle and drag her to safety. Police officers arriving on the scene heard a man screaming inside the burning vehicle. Denver firefighters extricated the man, who suffered significant serious injuries including third-degree burns on his body and a severe face/skull fracture.

Nevarez-Villa is scheduled to appear on November 14, 2017, at 8:00 a.m., in county courtroom 2300 for 2nd advisement.

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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