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## ***NEWS RELEASE*** –

May 4, 2018

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### **MAN CHARGED IN HIT AND RUN DEATH OF MOTORCYCLIST**

Denver District Attorney Beth McCann has formally charged a man in connection with the death of a motorcyclist last weekend.

**Jonathan Ortiz** (dob: 02-23-1979) is charged with one count of *vehicular homicide-DUI* (F3), one count of *leaving the scene of an accident-death* (F3), and one count of *vehicular homicide-reckless* (F4). Charges were filed yesterday.

Just after midnight on April 28, 2018, Ortiz allegedly hit a motorcyclist at I-25 and the I-70 northbound ramp, then ditched his truck nearby before he was arrested. Upon contact, the police officer noticed the defendant exhibited signs of impairment, including loud speech that made no sense, a chemical odor to his breath, and bloodshot eyes. Ortiz allegedly admitted to smoking crystal meth before the crash. The 53-year-old victim did not survive.

The defendant is scheduled to appear on May 7 at 8:30 a.m. in courtroom 2300 for 2<sup>nd</sup> 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