



***NEWS RELEASE –***

April 3, 2018

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**FORMER STATE WORKER FOUND GUILTY OF ‘UPSKIRTING’**

***Defendant also found guilty of one count of sexual assault***

A former state Department of Education worker accused of taking videos and pictures up the skirts of co-workers and other unsuspecting women with his mobile phone was convicted today by a Denver District Court jury.

**Thanh Ta** (dob: 04-30-1974) was found guilty today after a six-day jury trial of 17 out of 19 counts, including one count of *sexual assault* (F3), as well as *stalking* (F5), *invasion of privacy for sexual gratification* (M1), and *criminal attempt to commit invasion of privacy for sexual gratification* (M2). Ta was arrested last October and charged.

In September 2017 Colorado Department of Education personnel alerted Denver police that they had discovered numerous files, possibly of “pornographic,” nature, on an external hard drive owned by Ta but which had been connected at some point to the CDE system. Many of the files were marked with the names of current and former female employees, and contained videos and photos of the females’ intimate parts underneath their skirts or other areas of their body, taken at work or elsewhere while they were not looking. Other, non-employee, names were listed in separate files. Education personnel were able to retrieve approximately 250,000 files from the external hard drive, including most of the files deleted by Ta after officials had first discovered them, and the files were provided to Denver police. Most of the thousands of photos and videos found in the files were taken from 2011 until 2017. In addition to co-worker victims, Ta took similar videos and pictures of hundreds of unsuspecting women in public places such as coffee shops, grocery stores and on the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for June 29 at 10:30 a.m. in courtroom 5H.