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NEWS RELEASE

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LENGTHY PRISON SENTENCE FOR DRIVE-BY SHOOTING

A young man who fired an AK-47 throughout a Denver neighborhood, injuring two sleeping children and their neighbor nearly a year ago, has been sentenced to 180 years in prison.

Andreas Rubio (dob: 02-07-85) spoke at his sentencing hearing today, telling Denver District Court Judge Christina Habas that he was “really, really sorry for what happened.” The mother of the children shared a statement and one of the victims also spoke, telling the judge that her whole life was put on hold after being shot while sleeping in her bedroom. On behalf of the victims, Denver Deputy DA David Karpel asked the judge to send a message in sentencing Rubio.

Habas noted that Rubio took part in “a series of despicable, cowardly acts and the fact no one died was a pure miracle.” She sentenced Rubio to 36 years on each of five felony counts, to be served consecutively for a total of 180 years, in the Colorado Department of Corrections. Rubio was also sentenced to 6 years in prison for his guilty plea to witness intimidation. That sentence will be concurrent to the 180 years.

A co-defendant, Natalie McFarlane, is scheduled for trial in October 2006.