



# DenverDA

Mitchell R. Morrissey, District Attorney - Second Judicial District  
201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 801, Denver, CO 80202

Bus. Phone: 720-913-9000  
Fax: 720-913-9035



## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Gerald R. Whitman, Chief of Police

### ***JOINT NEWS RELEASE***

May 28, 2009

Contact: Lynn Kimbrough, 720-913-9025 or Sonny Jackson, 720-913-6534

### **CHARGES FILED IN '98 COLD CASE**

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a man accused of sexually assaulting a woman in 1998.

**Michael Spears** (09-17-54) is charged with *second-degree kidnapping* (F2) and *first-degree sexual assault* (F3). He appeared in court this morning to be formally advised of the charges, which were filed on Tuesday.

The charges allege that on October 11, 1998, Spears was pretending to fix a bicycle and attacked a woman who walked by and offered to help. The charges further allege that she was dragged behind some bushes in the 1600 block of Stuart Street and was sexually assaulted.

The case was unsolved until it was reviewed as part of Denver's Cold Case Project. Spears was identified as a suspect after DNA evidence linked him to the assault and was arrested May 20, 2009. According to the arrest affidavit, Spears is a registered sex offender with previous convictions for sexual assault in 1983 and 1989.

Spears remains in custody in the Denver County Jail. His bond is set at \$250,000. He is scheduled to appear in Denver County Court, room 472W, for a preliminary hearing on June 16, 2009 at 8:30 a.m.

-30-

***The Cold Case DNA Project is an ongoing collaborative effort involving Denver Police detectives, the Denver Police Department Crime Lab and the Denver District Attorney's Office with grant funding through the National Institute of Justice.***

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