



NEWS RELEASE

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CLEANING CREW COUPLE CHARGED IN COPPER CAPER

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a man and woman accused of stealing copper wire from Xcel Energy.

Andres Banales-Fernandez (DOB: 02-23-69) and **Virginia Ramirez** (DOB: 02-29-64) are each charged with one count of *theft* (F4).

The charges allege that Banales-Fernandez and Ramirez entered the premises of an Xcel Energy site near West 3rd Avenue and Navajo Street and stole spools of copper wire which were later resold to a recycling company. Both defendants worked for the cleaning company that was contracted to clean the facility.

Banales-Fernandez and **Ramirez** have been released from custody on bond and both are scheduled to appear in Denver County Courtroom 2100 on July 14, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. to be advised of the charge.

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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*