



# DenverDA

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## DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

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### **MAN CONVICTED IN 2007 DEATH OF TODDLER**

The man accused of the 2007 death of 3-year-old Neveah Gallegos has been found guilty on all counts today by a Denver jury.

**Angel Ray Montoya** (dob: 01-19-85) was charged with *first-degree murder* (F1), *child abuse resulting in death* (F2) and *abuse of a corpse* (M). Today, following a four-week long trial, the jury returned guilty verdicts on all counts.

Neveah was reported missing by her mother, Miriam Gallegos, on September 21, 2007, when she claimed the child had been kidnapped. But Denver police quickly determined the kidnapping report was not credible and launched a homicide investigation. Neveah's body was found a few days later in a ravine in Lakewood Dry Gulch in the 1100 block of Perry Street. Montoya and Gallegos were arrested in connection with Neveah's death at the time, but were later released pending further investigation. The case was later presented to a Grand Jury and indictments were returned against both Montoya and Gallegos.

**Miriam Gallegos** (dob: 04-25-87) pleaded guilty to child abuse resulting in death (F2) and is now serving a 12-year sentence in the Colorado Department of Corrections.

The case was prosecuted by Chief Deputy DA Michelle Amico and Chief Deputy DA Christine Washburn. Montoya will appear in Denver District Courtroom 5A next Tuesday, May 15, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. for sentencing. He faces a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole.