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## ***NEWS RELEASE –***

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### **MAN CHARGED IN SHOOTING DEATH OF YOUTH IN FAST FOOD PARKING LOT**

Denver District Attorney Beth McCann has formally charged a man in connection with the shooting death of a male teen at a westside McDonald's parking lot last week.

**Francisco Gonzalez** (dob: 12-13-1995) is charged with one count of *murder in the first degree* (F1) and one count of *possession of a weapon by a previous offender* (F5). Gonzalez was arrested in Las Vegas, Nevada on Sunday and charges filed Tuesday.

The charges allege that on the night of November 24, 2017, Gonzalez shot 17-year-old Steve Soledad-Lopez in the McDonald's restaurant parking lot located in the 2800 block of W. Alameda Avenue. The shooting followed a brief altercation between the two after the defendant accused the victim of striking the defendant's vehicle as the victim maneuvered his own vehicle through the crowded parking lot. The defendant and his friends then fled the parking lot on foot and by the defendant's vehicle, which was abandoned in another location a short time later after police tried to stop it. Police investigating the case discovered Gonzalez was traveling to California by Greyhound bus, an arrest warrant was issued, and Gonzalez was arrested in Las Vegas after the bus made one of its scheduled stops.

Gonzalez is expected to be extradited from Nevada, but extradition has not yet been scheduled.

-30-

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