



**NEWS RELEASE**

April 25, 2013  
Contact: Sue Lindsay  
Public Information  
303-835-5639

A driver who killed two pedestrians and injured a third while he was texting on his cell phone was sentenced to two years probation and 300 hours of community service Thursday in Adams County Court.

Michael J. Grennan (DOB 04-03-78) had pleaded guilty to two counts of careless driving resulting in death and one count of careless driving resulting in injury. He also pleaded guilty to a charge of having no insurance.

Grennan was driving in the 3500 block of East 168<sup>th</sup> Avenue along a paved rural road that is the border between Weld and Adams counties on March 31, 2012 when he received a text message.

He was fumbling with his phone when his 1998 Toyota pickup drifted onto the dirt shoulder and hit the three pedestrians, who were walking single file along the road.

Seth Lewis, 22, and Stephen Dabney, 33, were killed. Jarren Lewis, 14, was injured.

Adams County Judge Dianna Roybal said she was impressed by the forgiveness the families of the victims expressed. She said she would have imposed the maximum one-year jail sentence for each of the victims if family members had asked her to do so.

Roybal also imposed a \$500 fine and warned Grennan that he will serve a one-year jail sentence if he does not comply with the terms of probation.

"This was a very sad case and our sympathies are with the families of the victims," said 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney Dave Young. "Two people are dead and another was injured because the driver was using his cell phone. This case is a perfect of example of the dangers of driving while distracted. Don't use your cell phone or any other device while driving. Focus on what you are doing."

###