



NEWS RELEASE

March 7, 2014
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Matthew Burnett Pleads Guilty to Second-Degree Murder

17th Judicial District Attorney Dave Young today announced that Matthew Patrick Burnett (DOB 07/29/81) pleaded guilty to second-degree murder (F2) in the death of James Clifford Fernandez, 34.

On August 17, Broomfield police responded to a report of a man lying in the street in the 2500 block of 134th Circle and identified the man as Fernandez, of Westminster, who had spent the evening with Burnett and Carissa Koch at 2551 W. 134th Circle.

Burnett initially was charged with first-degree murder after deliberation (F1). He pleaded guilty to second-degree murder Thursday at his arraignment hearing.

He also pleaded guilty to sexual exploitation of a child (F4). This was a separate case involving more than 100 videos and images of child pornography found on Burnett's computer when police searched his home after Fernandez was killed.

Burnett will be sentenced at 10 a.m. May 23 in Division A of Broomfield County District Court.

Koch is charged with accessory to murder after the fact and destruction of physical evidence. She is set for trial July 21 in Division A of Broomfield County District Court.

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