



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged with Attempted Murder and Arson in Condominium Fire

17th Judicial District Attorney Dave Young today announced the filing of formal charges of attempted first-degree murder and arson against Martin Castruita Espinoza, (DOB 05/04/93) in the fire that destroyed a Thornton condominium complex last week.

Espinoza is charged with 55 counts, including 10 counts of attempted first-degree murder (F2), 31 counts of first-degree arson (F3), four counts of third-degree assault (M1) and 10 counts of crime of violence, a sentencing enhancer.

Flames engulfed the Corona Village Condominium complex at 8760 Corona Street destroying 18 condominiums in two buildings on March 6. Two residents and two firefighters were injured in the fire. Investigators concluded that the fire was intentionally set. Espinoza turned himself in to the Adams County Sheriff's Office on Friday.

Espinoza is set for preliminary hearing on April 2 at 2:30 p.m. in Division 2 of Adams County Court.

"This was a major fire that destroyed one building and much of a second building," said District Attorney Dave Young. "We are thankful that no one lost their life."

The filing of a criminal charge is merely a formal accusation that an individual committed a crime under Colorado laws. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. See Colo. RPC 3.6.

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