



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Man Sentenced in Attack on RTD Bus Driver**

Vernon Dorsey (DOB 07-21-88) was sentenced to six years in prison Monday for attempted endangering of public transportation (F3) in an attack on an RTD bus driver in Aurora last June.

Dorsey attacked and punched driver Arthur Stiffey, 65, in the face after Stiffey asked Dorsey to close a window he had opened because the air conditioning was on in the bus. A passenger, Anthony Corrales, 46, came to Stiffey's aid and was also injured in the struggle to control Dorsey before police arrived. The incident took place June 26, 2013 on East Colfax at Havana Street.

Dorsey pleaded guilty to attempted endangering of public transportation. He initially was charged with endangering public transportation (F3) and two counts of third-degree misdemeanor assault against Stiffey and Corrales.

Stiffey told the court that the bus was in gear and he had his foot on the brake when he was attacked. "What Mr. Dorsey did in his attack was to place 30-plus passengers of the bus at risk of injury or even death," he said.

"Bus operators are public servants like police and firefighters," said Stewart Golditch of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1001. "When we are interfered with, this puts the public at risk. This could have been a lot worse."

Dorsey was on parole at the time for a burglary conviction and will begin serving the six-year sentence in this case after he completes his sentence in the burglary case.

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