



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Two charged with \$1 Million Charity Theft**

17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney Dave Young today announced the filing of criminal charges against Genevieve Cruz and Adam Shryock for theft of more than \$1 million in a charity fraud case involving the sale of donated mattresses.

Shryock (DOB 10-22-79) is charged with theft of \$1 million or more (F2), conspiracy to commit theft of \$1 million or more (F3) and charitable fraud (F5). Cruz (DOB 09/01/57) is charged with one count of theft of \$1 million or more (F2) and one count of charitable fraud (F5). The charges were filed by the Economic Crime Unit of the District Attorney's Office.

The charges allege that the two obtained Serta mattresses returned under Serta's warranty program under false pretenses, claiming that they were being donated to the Ecumenical Refugee and Immigration Services Inc. in Denver and distributed to refugees. Cruz served as donation coordinator for the charity. Instead, the charges allege that Cruz and Shryock sold most of the mattresses for profit at reduced prices from storage units in Adams County.

Cruz is set for preliminary hearing at 2 p.m. on May 18 in Division 7 of Adams County Court. Shryock posted \$50,000 bond and will be advised of the charges at 8:30 a.m. on May 27.

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.

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