



NEWS RELEASE

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Fifteen-year-old Boy Sentenced in Broomfield Elementary School Stabbing

A 15-year-old boy was sentenced to 50 months in a youth corrections facility Wednesday in the stabbing of a 14-year-old student at Aspen Creek Elementary School in Broomfield last April. The juvenile, who was 14 at the time, stabbed the girl outside the school on April 30, 2015. She was flown to Children's Hospital and survived.

The teen previously pleaded guilty as a juvenile to first-degree assault causing serious bodily injury with a deadly weapon on an at-risk victim (F2) and aggravated juvenile offender, a sentencing enhancer. Under the terms of the plea agreement, he faced a sentence of three to five years in the Division of Youth Corrections.

"What you did here is absolutely horrendous," said Broomfield County District Judge Edward Moss. He imposed a sentence of 50 months in the Department of Youth Corrections.

"This is a tragic case," Deputy District Attorney Alex Baker told the judge at the sentencing hearing. He said the victim was stabbed at her school, where she thought she would be safe, and is still suffering from the physical and emotional effects of her injuries. "This was a monstrous act," he said. Baker noted that after the juvenile had stabbed the victim and was tackled by fellow students, he told them, "Let me go. I'm going to kill her."

Baker said the attack shook the community of Broomfield and that the resolution of the case was crafted both to protect the community and get the juvenile the therapy he needs to address long-standing underlying issues that led to his behavior. He said the victim and her family fully support the plea agreement and stipulated sentence. "This resolution demonstrates we are not a community that judges an individual based only on the worst thing they have done or gives up on an individual," he said.

District Attorney Dave Young said the plea agreement reached in this case reflected the offender's age and his mental health issues. He said the juvenile may have been charged as an adult if he were 16 when at the time of the crime.

"This was a serious offense," Young said. "Under the circumstances of this case, this is an appropriate sentence for this respondent due to the fact that he was 14 at the time this crime was committed. Not only is this in the best interest of the child, who will be in a facility where he will get the treatment he needs, but it also protects the community."