



NEWS RELEASE

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**Man Sentenced to 48 Years for Attempted Murder and Sexual Assault
in 1992 Cold Case**

Dionicio Ramos-Ascencio was sentenced to 48 years in prison Monday for sexual assault and attempted murder in a case that went unsolved for 25 years.

“The 48-year sentence that this defendant received is nothing compared to the sentence that he imposed on this defenseless victim back in 1992,” District Attorney Dave Young said. “She has had to face the trauma of what he did every day of her life. This prosecution came as a result of legislation that allows law enforcement to collect DNA of individuals arrested for felonies. Otherwise, this case would have remained unsolved.”

Ramos-Ascencio (DOB 02-12-1960) broke into the 32-year-old victim’s home in the 7200 block of East 60th Avenue in Commerce City on July 26, 1992.

“In July 1992, she had the right to feel safe as she slept in her bed,” Chief Deputy District Attorney Brett Martin said at the sentencing hearing in Adams County District Court. “He crept into her home in the middle of the night, stole a knife from her kitchen, went to her bedroom, put his hand over her mouth and stabbed her in the neck so hard that the knife was bent. He beat her and punched her in the face. Then he raped her on the floor of her bedroom and fled into the night.”

Martin called the case “one of the most heinous and brutal crimes I have seen. He has had 25 years of freedom that he didn’t deserve.”

Ramos-Ascencio was arrested and charged in the cold case last May after DNA collected in a 2017 Denver felony case matched DNA collected from the victim in 1992. Martin said that in 2011 Ramos-Ascencio had been caught standing on a chair looking into someone’s window, a petty offense that Martin said “has a more sinister tone knowing what happened in this case.”

He pleaded guilty to attempted first-degree murder after deliberation and first-degree aggravated sexual assault, both Class 2 felonies. Adams County District Judge Robert Kiesnowski, Jr., imposed concurrent 48-year prison terms on both counts. “The fact is that he and he alone committed this atrocity on a member of our community.”

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