



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**William Schwab Sentenced to 5 Years in Serial Squatter Scam**

William Schwab was sentenced Tuesday to five years in prison for conspiracy to commit identity theft in connection with “serial squatting” in which he and his wife fraudulently leased properties and then failed to pay rent, living in the homes until they were evicted.

Schwab (DOB 05/30/70) pleaded guilty to the charge last month and also must pay restitution in this case as well as in several cases that were pending charges. The amount has not yet been determined. The case was prosecuted by the Economic Crime Unit of the District Attorney's Office.

Schwab was charged with two counts of identity theft, two counts of conspiracy with his wife to commit identify theft and one count of theft in connection with the serial squatting scam. Schwab and his wife, Heather Schwab, were charged in connection with fraudulent conduct in leasing properties at 2756 E. 139<sup>th</sup> Place in Thornton and at 12188 Locust Street in unincorporated Adams County.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Robyn Cafasso argued for a prison sentence in the aggravated range because Schwab's criminal record shows that he continues to commit fraudulent acts. Schwab's criminal record dates back to 2008 and includes similar acts in Colorado and Texas.

Adams County Judge Roberto Ramirez sentenced Schwab to five years in prison and said he would have imposed the maximum six years in the aggravated range if Schwab had not taken responsibility for his crimes.

Heather Schwab previously was sentenced to six years in prison.

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