



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

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For Immediate Release
June 21, 2023

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Press Release
Operation Broken Valley

Following an extensive investigation conducted by the Lafayette Police Department, the Boulder County Sheriff, and the District Attorney's Office, the District Attorney's Office announced today the indictment of eight (8) adults for violations of the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act (COCCA) for engaging in a pattern of racketeering activity as an enterprise. The Erie Police Department, Louisville Police Department and Broomfield Police Department all assisted in the ongoing investigation and contributed to the tremendous success of the operation.

In committing the acts of racketeering, the group would frequently case or scout areas to find potential cars to steal. Upon finding a target vehicle to steal from or steal completely, one member would exit the transport vehicle, make entry in the target vehicle, and complete either a theft of goods or the theft of a vehicle. If the vehicle theft was completed, both the transport vehicle and the target vehicle would leave the area.

These stolen vehicles would often be brought back to 305 W. Geneseo St. #B, Lafayette, CO or the surrounding area, where they were frequently altered and components were removed. The stolen vehicles would also frequently be used to facilitate other crimes, including additional motor vehicle thefts, thefts, trespasses and burglaries.

The Geneseo Enterprise was also involved in trading items stolen from cars to other individuals in exchange for specific goods. Individuals would take stolen vehicles as well as the items stolen from vehicles, specifically firearms and tools, to 305 W. Geneso #B and would exchange them for drugs. The drugs exchanged were fentanyl which was pressed into blue pills marked "M30" and methamphetamine.

Members of the enterprise committed crimes across the Denver Metro area. Jurisdictions included; Adams County, Arapahoe County, Boulder County, Douglas County, Jefferson County, Lake County, Weld County, Arvada, Aurora, Boulder, Brighton, Broomfield,

Commerce City, Erie, Federal Heights, Frederick, Ft. Lupton, Greeley, Johnstown, Lafayette, Lakewood, Littleton, Longmont, Louisville, Loveland, Sheridan, Thornton, and Westminster.

These cases will be prosecuted in Boulder County.

The indicted members of the criminal enterprise arrested in operations yesterday are; Cristhian Baeza-Delgado (DOB: 11/4/1995)-88 counts, Esthefany Carolina Aguilar-Cardoza (DOB: 5/2/1998)-70 counts, Alejandro Moreno-Castro (DOB: 10/1/1999)-22 counts, and Ricardo Castro-Vasquez (DOB: 8/25/1984)-20 counts.

All eight defendants face a sentence of up to twenty-four years in prison on the F2 COCCA charges as well as prison sentences on the remaining felony charges ranging from one year to twelve years.

In summary, the Geneseo Enterprise over the course of the last 11 months is responsible for over 45 motor vehicle thefts with a total value approaching \$1 million, dozens of documented acts of chop shop activity related to those vehicles, and over \$96,000 in other stolen property.

The District Attorney's Office presented the case to the Grand Jury. On June 15, 2023, the Grand Jury returned indictments on all eight defendants. The indictments of the arrested defendants have been unsealed.

Lafayette Police Chief Rick Bashor stated, "The Lafayette Police Department and its assisting agencies put in 11 months of incredibly hard work to solve this case. Our detective division used new technology, including the Flock license plate system that was recently installed to accomplish this feat. We would like to thank the residents of Lafayette and Boulder County for their patience while we prepared and presented an exceptional case to the district attorney's office."

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, "As reflected by the indictment, this auto theft ring faces serious consequences for stealing so many cars and causing harm to many people. To effectively combat auto theft often requires long-term investigations across different jurisdictions. I want to recognize the Lafayette Police Department and the prosecutors who poured a tremendous amount of energy into this major investigation. Thanks to all the other law enforcement partners and district attorneys, this auto theft ring has been brought to a halt and will be prosecuted for violations of the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act. We appreciate the service of the grand jurors."

As in every criminal case, these charges are merely an accusation and the defendants are presumed innocent unless or until proven guilty.