



**Contact:** Sara Spaulding, APR  
Public Information Officer

303-324-1711

[sspaulding@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:sspaulding@ci.wheatridge.co.us)

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### WRPD Makes Arrests in January 2019 Death on Gray Street in Wheat Ridge

*Jefferson County District Attorney Announces Charges, One Suspect at Large*

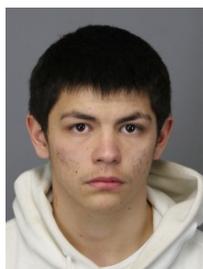
**WHEAT RIDGE, Colo. Jan. 30, 2020** – On January 26, 2019, Wheat Ridge police responded to the 3200 block of Gray Street on a report of shots fired. They found a male slumped over inside a Prius with its engine running. The male was non-responsive and bleeding. The male, identified as 23-year-old Ervin Spahitch, died at the scene.

Following a lengthy investigation by Wheat Ridge detectives, with assistance from Jefferson County District Attorney's Office Investigators, three arrests have been made and an arrest warrant has been issued for an adult female, Marissa Danielle Lawrence, DOB 08-03-00, who remains at large.

The three male suspects appeared in court on January 29, 2020, and Jefferson County District Attorney Pete Weir announced that based on their alleged participation, three juvenile males and one adult female have been charged with First Degree Murder, and other counts.



**Marissa Lawrence**, has been charged with eight counts, including First Degree Murder – After Deliberation (F1); Attempted Aggravated Robbery (F4); Conspiracy to Commit Aggravated Robbery (F4); and others. A warrant has been issued for her arrest. Anyone who has information on Marissa Lawrence should contact the Wheat Ridge Police Department at [crimetips@ci.wheatridge.co.us](mailto:crimetips@ci.wheatridge.co.us) or 303-235-2903.



**Jonathan Joseph Montoya**, 18 years old, has been charged with nine counts including First Degree Murder – After Deliberation (F1); First Degree Murder – Felony Murder (F1); Attempted Aggravated Robbery (F4); and others.



**Jalen Isiah Wilson**, 17 years old, has been charged with 12 counts, including First Degree Murder – After Deliberation (F1); Conspiracy to Commit Aggravated Robbery (F4); Attempted Aggravated Robbery (F4); and others.



**Christian Salas**, 18 years old, has been charged with seven counts, including First Degree Murder – After Deliberation (F1); Attempted Aggravated Robbery (F4); Conspiracy to Commit Aggravated Robbery (F4); and others.

The three suspects are being held without bond and are due back in court on February 12, 2020, at 8 a.m.

**About Wheat Ridge Police Department**

The Wheat Ridge Police Department focuses on community policing where officers can gain skills, expand their knowledge, and become part of a team of officers and staff who know and trust each other. A department of 83 sworn and 24.5 non-sworn, WRPD serves a thriving community bordered on the east by Denver, on the west by Golden, on the north by Arvada, and on the south by Lakewood. The City of 9.5 square miles has a population of 31,000. New development is currently underway in a number of locations bringing new residents and businesses to this vibrant community known locally as “Sweet Ridge.”

# # #

***The filing of a criminal charge is merely a formal accusation that an individual has committed a crime(s). A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. See Colo. RPC 3.6***