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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Wyoming Man Found Guilty  
In 2015 Fatal Crash**

GREELEY, Colo. (Weld County DA) – More than a year after a traffic crash claimed the life of a Berthoud man, a Weld County jury has found the defendant, 25-year-old Laramie, Wyoming resident Abel Carv, guilty of Careless Driving Resulting in Death, a Class 1 Misdemeanor Traffic offense.

The verdict was delivered this afternoon after a three-day jury trial.

The crash happened on August 4, 2015 around 5:30 a.m. on Interstate 25 in southern Weld County, near Mead. According to court documents, Abel Carv was driving southbound when he reached down to the floorboard to pick up a Pop-tart wrapper and veered off the road into the median.

Carv then attempted a u-turn and collided with a motorcycle, driven by Kevin Hastings, 54, who later died at a local hospital.

“This is a clear cut case of careless driving,” said Weld County Deputy District Attorney Chris Ponce. “Mr. Carv embarked from Wyoming on two hours of sleep: careless. He hit the rumble strips multiples times within just a couple of miles: careless.”

“He then told police he went off the road after reaching down for a Pop-tart...a Pop-tart.” Ponce continued. “He then made a u-turn on a busy interstate during the early morning hours. His careless actions cost Mr. Hastings’ life.”

The charge carries up to a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

“This is a clearly a tragedy for all families involved,” said Weld County District Attorney Michael Rourke. “But this unfortunate accident should serve as a reminder: Don’t get behind the wheel of a car if you’re not in the mindset to be in control of your actions. This one mistake took Mr. Hastings’ life and will leave an imprint on Mr. Carv’s forever.”

Carv’s sentencing will take place next Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM.

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