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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 27th, 2016
Contact: Kimberly Corban • kweeks@co.weld.co.us • 970.356.4010 ext. 4702
Re: Preliminary Hearing Win in Toddler Homicide Case

Greeley, CO – On the afternoon of January 25th, the honorable Judge Hoskins found sufficient evidence following a preliminary hearing in the 1st degree murder case of John Melvin White (DOB 12/18/81) in which he is accused of knowingly causing the death of two year old Michael Lara.

Judge Hoskins found Chief Deputy District Attorney Steve Wrenn, Deputy District Attorney Raj Chohan, and Greeley Police Department Detective Robert Cash had presented sufficient evidence on behalf of the people of Colorado to bind the case over for a jury trial for Murder in the First Degree of a Child under the Age of 12 by a Person in a Position of Trust (F1) and Child Abuse Resulting in Death (F2).

On Monday, May 11th, 2015, Greeley Police Department officers were called to 200 North 35th Avenue Unit #1 in Greeley, Colorado, in regards to an unresponsive child with injuries.

According to the police affidavit, the child was immediately transported to Northern Colorado Medical Center and was taken by helicopter to Children's Hospital in Denver.

A neighbor told police that White, the boyfriend of the child's mother, had brought the child to her house earlier, unresponsive.

Police arrested him and transported him to the Weld County Jail where he is currently being held without bond.

At 12:05am on May 13th, 2015 Michael Lara died at Children's hospital.

White is due back in court for an arraignment on March 3rd, 2016, at 2:00 PM in Division 12 of Weld County District Court.

##WCDA##