



DAVID J. THOMAS
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jefferson and Gilpin Counties

For Immediate Release – December 5, 2003

Contact: Pam Russell
Public Information
303-271-6905

RE: Foster Children Sexually Assaulted by Teenager in the Home.

Shannon Michelle Franklin, DOB: 6-24-79, of Golden, was recently convicted of two counts of sexual assault of a child and two counts of sexual assault of a child in a pattern. She will be sentenced on December 5, at 1:00 p.m. in Division 4 of the Jefferson County District Court.

Franklin was 13-15 years old at the time of the offenses, 1992-1995, and the two victims were foster children who had been placed in her mother's house at 1604 Secrest Street in Golden. One of the child victims, beginning at age 6, was sexually assaulted numerous times during her placement at the home. A second victim, age 7 was also sexually assaulted during the year and a half she was there. Neither child reported the assaults at the time. One victim, now 16, admitted the sexual assaults to the Department of Social Services late in 2001 when routinely asked if she'd ever been sexually assaulted. An investigation followed and one other victim was identified who had a very similar experience at the home. They reported a variety of forced sexual contact that they were subjected to, and also that they were forced to perform sexual acts on Franklin and possibly on other foster children.

The Golden Police Department and District Attorney's Office believe it is possible that there may be additional victims and ask anyone with information on this case to call Detective Kirsten Putkammer at the Golden Police Department, 303-384-8045.

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