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RE: Juveniles in Jet Ski Incident Sentenced

Two of the juveniles charged in the death of 9-year-old Alyssa Jostad last summer were in Jefferson County District Court today for sentencing.

- The, now, **15-year-old female driver of the Jet Ski** was sentenced to two years in the Department of Youth Corrections. She must pay \$5,500 in restitution to the Jefferson County Crime Victim Compensation Fund. On April 22 she pled guilty to criminally negligent homicide.
- **The 16-year old passenger on the Jet Ski** was sentenced to two years of probation, 100 hours of useful public service, and must pay \$7,100 to the Jefferson County Crime Victim Compensation Fund. She pled guilty to accessory to criminally negligent homicide on March 21

“This was not an accident,” said Judge James Zimmerman. “This driving was the type of conduct that is a gross deviation from the standard of care that people should use.”

- On June 4, the **17-year-old male**, now 18, was sentenced to two years of probation. In addition to the standard terms and conditions of his probation, he must maintain full-time employment and/or a school schedule. He must undergo therapy as recommended by Probation. He must complete the Victim

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Offender Reconciliation program, complete a water safety course and 100 hours of useful community service. He must also pay restitution in the amount of \$5,955 to the Jefferson County Crime Victim Compensation Fund. He pled guilty to accessory to criminally negligent homicide on April 22.

- A fourth juvenile, a **14-year-old male**, who was with the group and on another Jet Ski, pled guilty to a boating safety violation and was granted a deferred judgment.

Seven people, four juveniles and three adults were charged following the collision and the subsequent cover-up of ownership of the Jet Ski.

On June 23, 2002, Alyssa Jostad and a friend were being towed in a double-tubed raft behind her friend's parents' boat when the Jet Ski, traveling in the wrong direction, made a 90-degree turn and hit the raft. A 14-year-old female was driving the Jet Ski with a 16-year-old female passenger sitting behind her.

Alyssa was unconscious when she was pulled from the water, but had a heartbeat and was able to breath with medical assistance. She was airlifted to Children's Hospital, but never regained consciousness and was removed from life support several days later.

Following the collision, the 14-year-old operator of the Jet Ski and her passenger returned to their friends on the other side of the reservoir. Before they left the park on June 23, members of the group were contacted, more than once, by State Park officials seeking information about the accident. When contacted, they gave false information, denying any involvement or knowledge of the collision.

Shaw Aryan, DOB: 6-10-51, of Morrison, the owner of the Jet Ski, pled guilty to attempting to influence a public official on March 3, 2003 and was sentenced to three years probation and 300 hours of community service.

Stephen Benoit, DOB: 6-23-67, of Highlands Ranch, pled guilty to accessory to tampering with physical evidence on March 17 and on May 7 was sentenced to two years probation and 100 hours of community service.

Troy Hurtado, DOB: 1-31-68, of Denver, pled guilty to attempting to influence a public official on May 2 and will be sentenced on June 20 at 8:00 a.m. in Division 8 of the District Court.

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