



DAVID J. THOMAS
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jefferson and Gilpin Counties

For Immediate Release – April 28, 2004

Contact: Pam Russell
Public Information
303-271-6905

RE: Essex Charged with Aggravated Animal Cruelty

District Attorney Dave Thomas today filed one count of aggravated cruelty to animals (a class six felony) against William Dean Essex, 30, of Clifton. Essex was arrested by Westminster police on April 24 for the alleged abuse and of his beagle named "Vinnie."

Essex has a dispositional hearing scheduled for June 29, at 1 p.m. in Division C of the Jefferson County Court.

A class six felony carries with it a possible penalty between one year and 18 months in prison and a \$1,000 to a \$100,000 fine. Essex is out on bond.

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