



DAVID J. THOMAS
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jefferson and Gilpin Counties

For Immediate Release – August 20, 2004

Contact: Pam Russell
Public Information
303-271-6905

RE: Teen Sentenced to Probation and Jail for Careless Driving
Resulting in Death

Kablia Yang, DOB: 3-2-88, of Westminster appeared in Jefferson County Court today and was sentenced to one year probation and 15 days jail for causing the collision that killed 15-year-old Nau Lor in October, 2003. Yang, a student at Westminster High School, had borrowed a friend's car over the lunch hour and was driving around with four other kids in the car. None of the teens were wearing seatbelts as Yang sped along the 7600 block of Sheridan Blvd. at speeds of between 65-80 mph, weaving in and out of lanes when she lost control of the car. It flipped and Nau Lor was ejected and killed immediately. Yang had ignored the pleas of the other passengers to slow down.

At the emotional sentencing, Lor's family described her as a straight A student, a loving, helpful, supportive daughter and sister, and as having been the heart and soul of their family. Looking at the suffering and loss of the victim's family, and the community, and the impact of the Yang and her family, County Court Judge Archuleta said that today's youth seem to believe wear some sort of "cloak of invincibility" and that these tragedies cannot happen to them. While she commended Yang for taking responsibility for her actions, she said that her (Yang's) disregard for the safety of society could not

-- more --

be tolerated. She found Yang's actions aggravated in that she had totally disregarded the pleas of the passengers for her to slow down, as well as the safety of others on that busy section of Sheridan Blvd. Judge Archuleta granted Yang one year probation with the terms and conditions to include 15 days at the Mount View Youth Detention Facility followed by 90 days of home detention, she is not to drive for one year and must complete the Colorado State Patrol's *Alive at 25* Program.

Yang pled guilty to careless driving resulting in death and license or permit violation on July 20. There was no adult in the car, as required by Colorado law, and she had received her learner's permit just two weeks prior.

A second teen was charged in this incident. Pa Nou Lo, DOB; 4-19-87, also of Westminster pled guilty to tampering with a witness on April 7, 2004. It was Lo's car that Kablia Yang was driving and following the collision, Lo approached two of the surviving passengers and told them they should lie to police and say that she, Lo, didn't know Yang had taken her keys or that Yang had stolen them. She was sentenced to one year probation and 96 hours community service.

- end -