



DAVID J. THOMAS
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jefferson and Gilpin Counties

For Immediate Release – April 5, 2004

Contact: Pam Russell
Public Information
303-271-6905

RE: Patrick Suchaiya Pleads Guilty in Death of 18-year-old Garry McLaughlin

Patrick Suchaiya, DOB: 11-9-83, today pled guilty to second degree murder, attempted first degree murder naming six victims, tampering with evidence and two violent crime counts.

Suchaiya was arrested by Arvada Police on July 15, for shooting 18-year-old Garry McLaughlin at his family's home on May 31, 2003. McLaughlin and his sister had given a party while their parents were away and a group of uninvited Asian gang members showed up. The party was breaking up and they were asked to leave. Fights broke out, and ultimately, as they were leaving, Suchaiya fired three shots, one of which killed McLaughlin.

McLaughlin was the stepson of Jefferson County District Court Judge Jack Berryhill. All of the Jefferson County Judges recused themselves and former Justice Joseph Quinn, who has Senior Judge status, presides over this case. Venue was changed to the City and County of Denver and this case had been scheduled to begin trial today.

Sentencing has been set for June 1, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in Division 19 of the Denver District Court. Suchaiya faces from between 48-82 years in prison.

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