



May 19, 2011 PRESS RELEASE

On May 3rd, 2011 The Elbert County Sheriff's Office arrested Angela Dawn Ehlers, DOB 12-11-1982 on charges of attempting to Influence a Public Servant, a Class 4 felony.



Angela Dawn Ehlers

Ehlers has been accused of providing an unsolicited written statement to the Elbert County District Attorneys Office on April 29, 2011 stating that she was the owner of a knife that was found in possession of Travers Wesley Proulx, DOB 08-31-1975 by his probation officer during a routine home visit. The terms of Proulx's probation forbid him from having any weapons including knives in his possession.

On May 2nd, 2011 Ehlers was contacted by Lt. Michelle Mattive, Lead Investigator for the Elbert County Sheriffs Office at which time Ehlers swore to the validity of her statement. Lt. Mattive specifically inquired as to her willingness to testify to its accuracy and told Ehlers that if it were found to be a false statement that she would be charged criminally. Ehlers again told Lt. Mattive that the statement was true and accurate.

On April 18, 2011 while in custody at the Elbert County Detentions Center inmate Proulx was recorded using the Detentions Center phone system to contact his Mother, Betty Vaughn and Ehlers to explain why he needed Ehlers to lie and state the knife was hers or he would go to jail as a result of the violation.



Travers Wesley Proulx

All inmates' calls are recorded and all inmates are aware of that policy. When Ehlers provided the DA's office with the false statement at the request of Proulx it constituted her attempt to influence the District Attorney to drop the probation violation charges, a Class 4 Felony under CRS 18-8-306.



Proulx also committed the same violation of CRS 18-8-306 by presenting the false statement in court during his hearing on the charges of parole violation. Knowingly using a false statement in an attempt to have charges dropped gave cause to charge Proulx with Attempting to Influence a Public Servant as well.

"While all crimes are taken seriously by this office, the act of committing a crime while in our custody and using that crime to attempt to escape custody will always be dealt with swiftly" said Sheriff Shayne Heap. "Inmates in our jail need to understand we have a zero tolerance policy on the commission of any criminal act while in our Detention Center."