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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Construction Company Owner Pleads Guilty in Fatal Employee Accident

Breckenridge, Colo. (Summit County) – Peter Dillon, 54, of Gypsum, pleaded guilty yesterday to Manslaughter (F4)—related to the Nov. 16, 2021, death of 23-yr old Marlon Alfredo Diaz. Mr. Diaz was an employee of A4S Construction when he was fatally injured in a trench collapse that happened while he and other crew members were installing a sewer line at a residential construction site in Breckenridge. Dillon was the owner of A4S construction and responsible for the job site.

On May 13, 2022, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Denver Area Office, issued citations to A4S alleging serious and willful violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Per OSHA's report, Dillon said A4S did not have a written safety and health program, and he never conducted safety audits or inspections at his worksites, including the one where Mr. Diaz died.

"Business owners and supervisors have a responsibility to properly train and protect their employees from unsafe job conditions. The reality is that this tragedy was 100% preventable. Employers who choose to take shortcuts to save money at the expense of the safety of their employees must be held accountable," said Heidi McCollum, 5th Judicial District Attorney. "That type of behavior by an employer is unacceptable. People should not feel like they have to be put in dangerous work situations, just to keep their jobs; and, people should not have to pay with their lives, just so their employer can save a few dollars," she added.

Sentencing in this case has been set for Nov. 9, 2023, at 10am.

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ALL PERSONS CHARGED WITH CRIMES ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL THE CONTRARY IS PROVEN IN A COURT OF LAW.

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