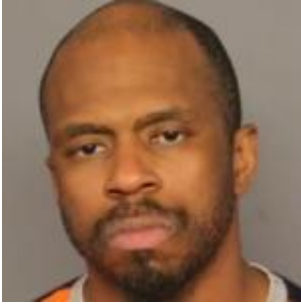


# Denver: Man Accused of Murder had Been Freed from Prison Due to Coronavirus



Cornelius Haney, was arrested over the weekend for the fatal shooting of Heather Perry in an alleyway. The shooting occurred 30 days after he was he had been freed from prison due to a state executive order to reduce the prison population during the public health crisis. He was serving a seven-year sentence for robbery when he was released.

A parolee accused of murdering a 21-year-old woman in Denver on Saturday was out of prison, according to information shared with 9Wants to Know, due to ongoing efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 in the state's prison system.

On Saturday, Denver Police believe Cornelius Haney shot and killed Heather Perry, 21, in an alley between the 1400 block of North Verbena St. and North Valentia St. in east Denver.

The fact that Haney, a felon with an extensive Colorado criminal history dating back to 1998, was out in the first place has a lot to do with the state's efforts to keep COVID-19 from spreading within the state's prison system.

Serving the tail end of a seven-year sentence for robbery, Haney left prison April 15th, four months earlier than his mandatory release date. A spokesperson for the Colorado Department of Corrections (DOC) told 9Wants to Know on Friday

that Haney “was released due to special needs parole criteria” under an Executive Order signed by Governor Jared Polis in March.

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