

TRAILHEAD RITTER ATTACK AD
TRANSCRIPTION

September 1, 2006

Voiceover: Bill Ritter brags about his record fighting crime, but let's take a closer look at Ritter's record.

While Ritter was Denver's District Attorney, his office plea bargained 97% of all cases. Ritter even plea bargained with murders and convicted sex offenders. And Ritter avoided enforcing the death penalty for capital crimes.

So while crime rates across the country declined, while Ritter was D.A., Denver's murder rate increased. Ritter on crime – nothing to brag about.



TRUTH TEST: Colorado '527' attacks Ritter

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Created: 9/1/2006 3:22 PM MST - Updated: 9/2/2006 6:38 PM MST



KUSA - Throughout the 2006 election season, 9NEWS will hold accountable candidates or groups who run commercials on our station.

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Sources for every assertion made in the commercial are cited below.

This "Truth Test" looks at a 30-second attack ad against Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bill Ritter. The commercial is paid for by the Trailhead Group. The group is a so-called "527," named after the part of the U.S. tax code which makes it exempt from certain Colorado campaign finance laws, such as limits on the amount it can raise and spend. Major contributors have included prominent Republicans in Colorado like former U.S. Senate candidate Pete Coors and former gubernatorial candidate Bruce Benson. (Source: Internal Revenue Service Campaign Report, <http://forms.irs.gov/politicalOrgsSearch/search/gotoSearchDrillDown.action?pacId='23691'&criteriaName='Trailhead+Group%2C+LLC'>)

The race to become Colorado's next governor is between Ritter, Republican Bob Beauprez, Libertarian Dawn Winkler, American Constitution Party candidate Clyde Harkins and Independent Paul Fiorino.

TRUTH TEST: "BRAGS 4"

Quote: "Bill Ritter brags about his record fighting crime, but let's take a closer look at Ritter's record.

Truth: This is true.

The former Denver District Attorney has a power point presentation on his campaign website dedicated to detailing his efforts in office from 1993-2004. (Source: Ritter Campaign Site http://ritterforgovernor.com/docs/ppt/Bill%20Ritter's%20Record%20as%20DA_files/frame.htm)

Quote: "While Ritter was Denver's District Attorney, his office plea-bargained 97 percent of all cases.

Truth: This is true.

Ritter told the *Rocky Mountain News* on December 7, 1999, shortly before his second full term began, that without more judges and prosecutors available, "we only wind up trying three percent of our own cases." (Source: *Rocky Mountain News*, 12/7/99).

EXHIBIT 2

