

Mothers involved in recent incidents charged with felony neglect of children

Written by Marty Randall

Wednesday, 13 August 2014 06:38 -

Two young mothers are now facing felony charges of neglect after allegedly being involved in separate incidents, both of which occurred on Sunday, August 3, in Scottsburg.

Stephanie L. Everhart, 23, Deputy, and Autumn D. Korte, 22, Scottsburg, have been charged with neglect of a dependent, a Level 6 felony, in Scott Superior Court. Korte also has a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct.

Korte was taken into custody after Scottsburg Patrolman Troy Ford and Austin officers Robert Gudgel and Robert Garza responded to a 9-1-1 call on North Fifth Street. The female caller reported that a verbal argument was escalating at the home.

Korte was allegedly intoxicated and fighting with a man when the officers arrived. A woman at the scene said she tried to help Korte by offering to drive her somewhere. Korte, however, reportedly refused her help and tried to drive away with Korte's two-year-old child in the car. After the woman got the child away from Korte, she said Korte pushed her into some bushes. Officers attempted to calm Korte, but she continued to yell, the probable cause affidavit stated.

She was transported to the Scott County Security Center.

At 10:45 p.m. that evening, Ptl. Ford and Patrolman James Vires were dispatched to Hardy's Cafe on the west side of the Scottsburg square. They were told two young children were seen in the back seat of a Buick parked outside the restaurant.

As officers were investigating the incident, Stephanie Everhart came out of the building. She told officers that the children were hers. Witnesses stated that Everhart had been inside the cafe for at least 20 minutes and that she had been drinking.

Everhart was placed into custody and taken to the jail.

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Each woman had her initial hearing on Tuesday, August 5, before Judge Marsha Owens Howser in Scott Superior Court. A preliminary plea of not guilty was entered for each, and public defenders were appointed to the cases.

Everhart's bail was set at \$15,000 by corporate surety bond or \$1,500 cash by the judge. A no contact order was entered as a condition of her bond. Under the order, she will not be allowed contact with the children unless allowed by the Department of Child Services.

A no contact order was also entered in Korte's case. Her bail was reduced from \$15,000/\$1,500 cash to \$7,500/\$750 by the judge. An initial jury trial date of November 3 was assigned to each case.