

## **Austin mother charged with failing to return three-year-old to proper custody**

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An Austin mother is being sought by law enforcement officers for reportedly failing to return her child to the boy's father.

Amie Sandlin, 33, apparently left Indiana accompanied by the three-year-old boy on August 11. She was to have returned the child to his father's custody on the evening of August 14. The father reported the child and mother missing to the Austin Police Department on August 20.

As of August 29, the father said he has not seen his son nor Sandlin, the probable cause affidavit related.

Sandlin, it was noted, was to have begun serving a prison sentence in August. Two warrants for her arrest were issued via Scott Superior Court when Sandlin failed to appear for hearings on August 15 and 22. Those unrelated cases involved a charge of escape and of operating a vehicle after her driver license had been forfeited on a lifetime suspension.

In a new case filed with Superior Court on August 29, the mother was charged with two Class D felony charges of interference with custody of a minor.

A relative of the missing mom reportedly told Austin Detective Lonnie Noble that Sandlin "...was looking in the internet for a state that would not extradite her back to Indiana because of her pending prison time," the affidavit stated.

Sandlin's bond in the new case has been set at \$15,000 corporate surety bond or 10% cash.