

Updated: Mother arrested and charged in case involving infant's death

Written by George Browning

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Casey Crain, 23, the mother of Leelan Crain, an eight-month old who died from blunt force trauma Sunday, Sept. 8, has been arrested and charged with neglect of a dependent, which is a Class A felony.

She was arrested around noon Friday (Sept. 13) and is being held in the Washington County Detention Center on a \$40,000 full cash bond; \$1,000 cash plus \$180,000 surety or \$1,000 cash plus \$360,000 property.

According to a probable cause affidavit, Crain told Indiana State Police Detective Dave Makowsky that Jamie James Lykins went to put Leelan down for a nap in the bedroom.

As for why the delay in charges being filed, Washington County Prosecutor Dustin Houchin said it was just a matter of precaution. "Please understand that these investigations are complex and continuing. Every decision is strategically based on what is most likely to ultimately secure justice in these cases."

The affidavit says that Crain advised that as soon as Lykins went into the bedroom with the child he turned country music on to a high volume.

Crain told Makowsky that she heard the baby crying for approximately 45 minutes, followed by silence.

The affidavit said Crain told Makowsky she assumed the baby was asleep.

She told Makowsky when she later went to check on Leelan she discovered that he was severely bruised, not breathing properly and was semiconscious.

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Lykins told Makowsky that after Leelan went to sleep he and Crain were watching TV when they heard a thud of what they assumed was the baby falling out of his bed.

Hospital staff and staff at the Kentucky Medical Examiner's office said Leelan's injuries were not consistent of those that would have occurred from a fall.

Lykins was arrested on Sept. 10 and charged battery resulting in death and neglect of a dependent, both Class A Felonies.

The investigation continued which led to the charges filed against Crain.

For more information, check back in the Wednesday, Sept. 18 issue of the The Washington County Edition.