

2-month-old treated for burns, fractures; local couple arrested

Written by By FAITH HUFFMAN, News-Telegram News Editor
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A Sulphur Springs couple was jailed on felony charges Wednesday morning for allegedly waiting two days to seek medical attention for their infant, who had sustained burns on his face and foot as well as a fractured leg and arm.

Robert James Aufdenberg, 20, and Katie Lynn Maynard, 19, both of Sulphur Springs were arrested at 6:50 a.m. for injury to a child by reckless omission with serious bodily injury to their 2-month-old baby. Aufdenberg is also wanted in Henderson, Nev., for two counts of burglary-grand larceny, according to arrest reports.

Police were first alerted in the wee hours Wednesday, about 1:50 a.m. according to arrest reports. Investigators were called in about 3 a.m. Wednesday to the emergency room, where Aufdenberg and Maynard took the child for treatment of second- and third-degree burns on his foot and head.

“The story of how it happened didn’t make a lot of sense. That’s why we were notified by hospital personnel. At Hopkins County Memorial Hospital, medical professionals diagnosed him as having a spiral fracture to his upper arm and an impact fracture to his lower leg, in addition to the second- and third-degree burns,” said Sulphur Springs Police Lt. Investigator Rusty Stillwagoner.

The patrol officers questioned parents at the hospital. They were then interviewed at the police department by investigators.

“After the interview, we determined to arrest both for injury to a child by reckless omission with serious bodily injury, a second-degree felony charge. We filed on that charge because the injuries occurred on Monday afternoon and they didn’t take them in until Wednesday morning about 1:30 a.m. That’s two days the child was not provided medical care for his injuries. Nothing was done — he suffered for two days without medical attention. Both parents were arrested,” Stillwagoner said.

Child Protective Services has been contacted and currently has custody of the child until further investigation.

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Medical professionals at HCMH made the decision to transport the infant to Parkland for his burns, he was later transferred to Children's Hospital for treatment of his fractures.

"I was in contact with Children's this morning and they've determined the (almost) 3-month-old has other fractures or injuries in different stages of healing. As we get more information, there may be other charges. Only these two are charged in this, the parents," Stillwagoner said.