

Union County State's Attorney

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Defendant's Name: Anna Salas
Age: 31
City and State of residence: South Sioux City, NE
Criminal File Number: N/A
Action Taken: The State has declined to file charges in this matter.
Date of Sentence: N/A
Arresting Officer: N/A

Case Synopsis:

Anna Salas' normal morning routine is to take her youngest child to day care prior to going to work. On January 7, 2014, Anna Salas deviated from her morning routine. On this day Salas deviated by taking her other children to school. Once the other children were dropped off at school Salas continued on to work and settled back into the routine of the day, forgetting that her youngest child was still in the vehicle. At about 5:00 p.m. Anna Salas called her boyfriend / father of their two-year old child and advised that she had to work late and asked if he could go to the daycare and pick up their child, which he agreed to do. Anna Salas then received a phone call from her boyfriend whom advised that their child was not at daycare and had not been there all day. Upon hearing this, witnesses confirm that Salas was immediately distraught, dropped the phone, and ran, without a coat, to her vehicle, where she retrieved her daughter who was sitting calmly alert in the vehicle. Witnesses further confirm that she brought her child into her place of employment to check her child's wellbeing and to warm her up. Salas called her boyfriend and advised that she had their child at work. The boyfriend/father retrieved the mother and daughter and immediately drove both to Mercy hospital in Sioux City, IA.

Following a review of Law Enforcement reports, witnesses statements, medical records, and the report from the Nebraska Department of Human Services the following was determined. The child was appropriately dressed with a winter coat while she was restrained in an age appropriate car seat. The child was evaluated at the hospital and determined to be calm, alert, and showing no signs of distress. The Department of Human Services found no issues during a family and residence assessment and determined that no services were recommended.

Salas has no criminal history of child abuse or child endangerment. Salas' other children are reportedly doing well in school with no issues to suggest a history or issue of neglect and or abuse. Salas has been in a ten-year long stable relationship with the same person. Furthermore, Salas has a long history of full-time employment. Salas is also a full-time student and scheduled to complete an associate's degree this coming May of 2014. In the totality of the circumstances, taking into account the weather and all the reports and statements, the State has determined Anna Salas did not act with any criminal intent to neglect or abuse her child. This office will not be filing a criminal complaint on this incident.