

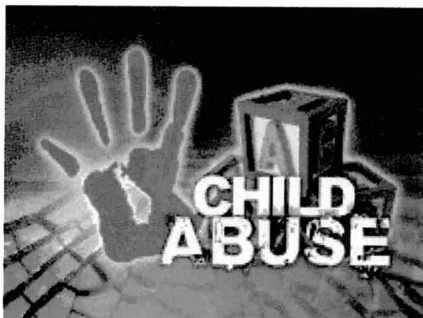


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Mom Arrested for Emotional, Physical Abuse of Adopted Children

Anya James, 50, was arrested Tuesday and is charged with ten counts of kidnapping and six counts of first-degree assault.

By Colleen Kelly



An Anchorage mom has been arrested for subjecting her six adopted children to years of emotional and physical abuse, according to Anchorage police.

Following an eight-month investigation, 50-year-old Anya James now faces criminal offenses for the gross mistreatment of her children. James was arrested Tuesday and is charged with ten counts of kidnapping and six counts of first-degree assault.

APD Detective Chris Thomas began the investigation in early October 2010 after receiving a claim of child abuse against four of James' children living in her Hillside home. That same month, several of James' children were removed from the home and hospitalized due to severe malnourishment.

The investigation further revealed that due to malnourishment, James' adopted children endured stunted growth, which prevented some of them from going through puberty during their teenage years.

According to police, the children were confined to small rooms with alarms rigged up to the doors and windows to alert James if the children tried to escape. The mother also used audio and video monitors to oversee the children's activity and conversations.

Despite three functioning bathrooms inside the home, the children were forced to use a bucket filled with kitty litter instead of a toilet placed inside the small rooms.

James is currently booked at the Anchorage Jail; her bail is set at \$100,000 cash plus third-party custodian. She will not have contact with any of her adopted children or minors under 16 years old, according to police. She will be arraigned in Superior Court Wednesday afternoon at the Nesbitt Courthouse in downtown Anchorage.

Between 2000 and 2010, James fostered and adopted six children and collected more than \$750,000 in adoption subsidies from the State of Alaska.

If you have information about children living under James' care before 2000, contact Anchorage Police Detective Chris Thomas at 786-2628.

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Mom pleads guilty to putting needles in boy's stomach

Anchorage Daily News
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A 29-year-old Anchorage woman pleaded guilty Friday to first-degree assault and two counts of second-degree assault for abuse of her 5-year-old son that included putting needles in his stomach, according to the Anchorage District Attorney's office.

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Lily Doss-Puder entered her plea before state Superior Court Judge Michael Wolverton, who scheduled sentencing for May, the office said.

The case against her arose last June, when her son was admitted to the hospital for emergency surgery and doctors found three sewing needles in his stomach. Anchorage Police Detective Chris Thomas investigated and, in a review of the child's medical records, found a pattern of injuries to the boy dating to June 2009, the District Attorney's office said.

When Thomas interviewed Doss-Puder, she admitted inserting the needles into her son's stomach, intentionally cutting the webbing of his hand with a knife and intentionally hitting him on the head with a 2-pound weight, the office said.

In exchange for her pleas, Doss-Puder will be sentenced to 18 years in prison with six years suspended, and she won't be allowed to contact her son until he is 18, the District Attorney's office said.

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