

Hernando County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release

From: Denise M. Moloney

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Re: Child Abuse Arrest

Date: December 27, 2012

On 12-27-12, at 1:30 a.m., Fire/Rescue responded to an address in Spring Hill in reference to a nine-year old child that was convulsing/seizing, and at times, losing consciousness. The child was transported to a local hospital. Initial blood tests at the hospital revealed that there was cocaine in the child's system. The child was then transported out of county for more advanced care. Hospital staff called the Department of Children and Families (DCF) as per protocol, which led to a law enforcement response.

Detectives interviewed the child at the hospital. As a result of that interview, the following information was determined. The child had previously observed a person in the home, later identified as Kimberly Losurdo, smoking, snorting and ingesting drugs. The child advised that an "irregular shaped, rock like" substance was found in the bathroom and the child ingested it two days ago (approximately 12-25-12). Shortly after ingesting the rock like substance, the child became ill, vomiting and deteriorating slowly, until being hospitalized.

Detectives interviewed the suspect, Kimberly Losurdo. Losurdo advised that she has been in the company of the child for at least the last five to seven days. She also stated that she smokes crack cocaine inside the residence and that the child must have found a piece and ingested it, thinking it was candy or a pill. Losurdo stated that the child began vomiting two days ago and displayed flu-like symptoms. She called Fire/Rescue when the child began seizing on 12-27-12.

A search of the residence yielded a crack pipe.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis said, "There are few things more disappointing that we have to deal with than a child who is living in an environment where drug use is the norm. What the children perceive as normal would astound the average citizen. We can see from this case, however, that drug users do more than set a bad example, they put innocent lives at risk. Relatives,

and even neighbors, of young children should take a zero tolerance stance when it comes to drug use anywhere near children. We must all take an active role in protecting those who do not have the ability to protect themselves by calling authorities if there is obvious evidence of drug use around children."

DCF removed three children (ages 9, 11, and 16) from the home.

The child in question is expected to make a full recovery.

Kimberly Losurdo W/F DOB/10-01-1967 was charged with Child Abuse. Her bond was set at \$5,000. She is currently detained at the Hernando County Detention Center.