



OFFICIAL MEDIA RELEASE
KENT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Date: May 1, 2018
Complaint Number: 18-120694
Type of Incident: Child Abuse
Detective: Aron Bowser
Supervisor Approval: Lt. Ron Gates

UPDATE: 5/2/2018 at 3:30 p.m.

Today at approximately 12:45 p.m. the 2 year old victim in this case succumbed to her injuries and has died while being cared for at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital.

The suspect, Ricky Len Whiteside (19) was arraigned today in the 63rd District Court on a Child Abuse 1st Degree charge and he remains in custody at the Kent County Correctional Facility.

In light of the child's death, investigators will be seeking additional charges in this matter.

ORIGINAL:

On Sunday, April 29th, 2018 at approximately 11:37 PM the Kent County Sheriff Office responded to the Lazy T Motel located at 3370 Plainfield Ave N.E. in Grand Rapids Township, on a report of an unresponsive child.

Deputies arrived to find a 2-year-old female not breathing and unresponsive. Deputies performed life saving measures until additional medical personnel arrived. The child was transported to Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and is currently listed in critical condition.

As a result of the investigation, one person was arrested and is currently lodged at the Kent County Correctional Facility pending review by the Kent County Prosecutor's Office.

This is an ongoing investigation and anyone with information is asked to call the Kent County Sheriff Department at 616-632-6357 or Silent Observer at 616-774-2345.

Media Contact: Sgt. Joel Roon 616-292-3280