



NEWS RELEASE

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CHILD ABUSE ARRESTS

On the late evening of January 14, 2012, officers from Operations Division Midtown responded to a local area hospital reference the report of a child that was being admitted to the hospital for severe injuries. Medical staff advised the officers that personnel from the Tucson Fire Department originally transported the child to the hospital after responding to a call for service at a residence. The Tucson Fire Department confirmed that they responded to a residence in the **5400 Block of East 18th Street** regarding a child that was experiencing difficulty with breathing. They ultimately transported the child to the hospital for further evaluation and treatment. While at the hospital, staff learned that the child had extensive injuries and notified the police. Due to the nature of the investigation, detectives from the Dependent Child Unit also responded to assist with the investigation.

Detectives learned that the child, a **2-year old female, had numerous fractures and internal injuries**. Medical staff indicated that the injuries were **non-accidental in nature and likely caused by blunt force trauma**. The child remains at an area hospital in the Intensive Care Unit. She is expected to survive her injuries. It should be noted that there was another female child (7-years old) that lived in the residence with the 2-year old and her mother. The 7-year old was not injured and has been placed in the custody of Child Protective Services.

During the course of the investigation, the mother, **25-year old Ashlee Nichole Liberty**, was interviewed. It was determined that she had **failed to protect her child**, thus justifying an arrest for **1 count of Child Abuse, a Class 2 Felony**. In addition, as a result of the investigation, Ms. Liberty's boyfriend (not the biological father of the child), **27-year old Oscar Omar Aguirre**, was arrested for **2 counts of Child Abuse, a Class 2 Felony**. Both were arrested and booked into the Pima County Jail on the afternoon of January 17, 2012. Booking photographs for Ms. Liberty and Mr. Aguirre are included below.



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Ashlee Nichole Liberty



Oscar Omar Aguirre

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Page 2 of 2

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