



Office of the District Attorney
Fifth Judicial District

For Immediate Release
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Charges Filed in October Near-Drowning at Breckenridge's Grand Lodge

BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO: Official charges have been filed by the District Attorney's Office against Bianca Krakofsky of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Krakofsky has been charged by a summons and complaint with Child Abuse-Negligence Causing Serious Bodily Injury, a Class 4 Felony, by negligently causing an injury to her foster child when he was not properly supervised at a hotel pool in Breckenridge.

That child, age 5, was in Krakofsky's care as a foster child on October 5, 2013. The child, whose name is being withheld to protect his privacy, and his younger brother were taken by the defendant to Grand Lodge in Breckenridge, Colorado. At approximately 4:14 pm the child was found unresponsive in a hot tub. Emergency responders attempted to revive the child before he was flown to a Denver Hospital.

The investigation conducted by Detective Blank of the Breckenridge Police Department, in consultation with the District Attorney's Office, has culminated in these serious charges which, upon conviction, would potentially carry a prison sentence.

District Attorney Bruce Brown stated of his office's decision to file charges, "No matter which way you look at it, this was a tragedy. However, actions have consequences, and sometimes a person's inaction has consequences too. Part of the message of this prosecution is to serve as a warning to the public that the vulnerable young deserve our attention all the time because we, as adults, are their protectors."

DA Brown also stressed that parents and guardians take the time to review safety measures and precautions that should always be taken when children are around water:

- Always supervise children near water in a pool, tub, bucket or ocean. It only takes inches of water to drown a small child.
- Designate a "Water Watcher" to maintain constant watch over children in the pool during gatherings.
- Always wear a life jacket in open water.
- Always swim with a buddy.
- Keep a phone at poolside so that you never have to leave the pool to answer the phone, and can call for help if needed.
- Learn CPR and rescue breathing.

- Keep a life-saving ring, shepherd's hook and CPR instructions mounted at poolside, or make sure you know where such instructions are posted.
- Empty water in buckets or wading pools after use.
- If a child is missing, always check the pool first. Seconds count.
- Remove toys from in and around the pool when not in use.

**Courtesy of DenverHealth.org*

Krakofsky has been issued a summons to appear in Summit County Court on January 29th at 1:30PM.

The charges listed in this document are merely accusations. The defendant is innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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