



# DenverDA

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **MOTHER PLEADS GUILTY IN DAUGHTER'S DEATH**

The mother of a three-year-old girl who died from malnourishment and dehydration last year has pleaded guilty in connection with her death.

**Shaunee Hall** (dob: 10-27-84) pleaded guilty today to *child abuse resulting in serious bodily injury* (F3). A first-degree murder charge was dismissed in exchange for the guilty plea.

3-year-old Zianne Hall was brought to a local hospital on October 13, 2007 suffering from malnourishment and dehydration, weighing less than 22 pounds, according to an arrest affidavit. She died on October 30, 2007. Hall (the child's mother) and Tina Houcks (dob: 01-15-71), (a roommate and caregiver) were both charged in connection with the death.

Houcks still faces charges of *first-degree murder, knowingly causing the death of a child under 12* (F1), *child abuse resulting in death* (F2) and *child abuse resulting in serious bodily injury* (F3). She is scheduled for trial in December.

Hall is scheduled to be sentenced on October 30, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in Denver District Courtroom 12. She faces 20 years in prison.

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The filing of a criminal charge is merely a formal accusation that an individual(s) committed a crime(s) under Colorado laws. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. *See Colo. RPC 3.6*