



DenverDA

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NEWS RELEASE

October 19, 2007

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MOTHER AND CAREGIVER FACING CHILD ABUSE CHARGES

Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey has formally charged a woman accused of abusing a three-year-old child she had been caring for. The child's mother was arrested today and faces formal charges next week.

Tina Houcks (DOB: 01-15-1971) is charged with *child abuse resulting in serious bodily injury* (F3).

The charge alleges that Houcks and the child's mother, **Shaunee Hall** (DOB: 10-27-1984) were roommates and shared responsibilities caring for the child. The charge further alleges that they took the child to an area hospital on October 13, 2007, when the girl became unresponsive. According to the arrest affidavit, the child was taken to the hospital in critical condition suffering from malnourishment and extreme dehydration: weighing less than 22 lbs.

Hall was taken into custody today and a decision on formal charges will be made next week.

Tina Houcks remains in custody in the Denver County Jail. Bond was set at \$75,000. Houcks is scheduled to appear for her second advisement on October 24, 2007, in Denver County Courtroom 12T at 9:00a.m.