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NEWS RELEASE

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MOTHER SENTENCED TO MAXIMUM IN ABUSE CASE

A mother who left her two children in the long-term care of another family, even though she knew they were being abused, has been sentenced to the maximum prison sentence today.

Karen Stillman (dob: 03-25-51) pleaded guilty in July 2009 to attempted child abuse with serious bodily injury (F4) and was sentenced today to the maximum of 16 years in prison. Denver District Court Judge William Hood said she was completely derelict in her responsibilities as a parent in giving her the maximum sentence.

Stillman left a son and daughter in the care of Eric and Linda Torrez in the mid-1990s. The charges alleged that they were repeatedly physically and sexually abused in that home.

Stillman's daughter, who is now 22, spoke at the sentencing hearing, saying her mother knew of the abuse but did nothing to intervene or report it.

Two members of the family who are accused of the abuse are still awaiting trial. One has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing and another died before going to trial.