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Colorado Department of Human Services

people who help people

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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

TO: Members of the General Assembly

FROM: *Marva Livingston Hammons*
Marva Livingston Hammons, Executive Director

DATE: December 12, 2003

SUBJECT: Abandoned Infant Report pursuant to 19-3-304.5 (6)

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

There was one case that was abandoned in accordance with the statute in 2003. The infant was taken to a fire station in Adams County in February.

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Colorado Department of Human Services
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1575 Sherman Street
Denver, Colorado 80203-1714
Phone 303-888-5700
www.cdhs.state.co.us



Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

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December 16, 2003

The Honorable Alice J. Nichol
State Senator
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Senator Nichol:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

There was one case that was abandoned in accordance with the statute in 2003. The infant was taken to a fire station in Adams County in February, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marva Livingston Hammons", written over a horizontal line.

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

cc: John Bernhart

STATE OF COLORADO



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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

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December 16, 2003

The Honorable Peggy Reeves
State Senator
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Senator Reeves:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

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Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

cc: John Bernhart

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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

December 16, 2003

The Honorable Gayle Berry
State Representative
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Representaive Berry:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

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Executive Director

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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

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December 16, 2003

The Honorable Fran Coleman
State Representative
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Representative Coleman:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

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Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

cc: John Bernhart

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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

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December 16, 2003

The Honorable Tom Plant
State Representative
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Representative Plant:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

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December 16, 2003

The Honorable Matt Smith
State Representative
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Representative Smith:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

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Executive Director

cc: John Bernhart

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Denver, Colorado 80203-1714
Phone 303-866-5700
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Bill Owens
Governor

Marva Livingston Hammons
Executive Director

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December 16, 2003

The Honorable Lois Tochtrop
State Representative
136 State Capitol
Denver CO 80203

Dear Representative Tochtrop:

Pursuant to Senate Bill 00-171 (10-3-304.5 (6)) Concerning Certain Abandoned Children, the State Department of Human Services is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly compiling monthly reports by counties of the number of children abandoned under this statute.

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Executive Director

cc: John Bernhart

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Wednesday, March 24, 2004

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Article Published: Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Abandoned newborn found; mom held

Relatives discover boy alive 38 hours after mother, 19, left him in closet

By John Ingold

Denver Post Staff Writer

ADAMS COUNTY - The newborn boy was found in a cardboard box in a bedroom closet, covered by a blood-soaked towel.

Police believe he had spent nearly all of his first 38 hours of life there, left for dead by his 19-year-old mother. His mother told detectives she thought her son was dead when she gave birth to him sometime Friday morning.

The woman's uncle and his girlfriend found the baby Saturday night after hearing what they thought was a kitten's whimper.

Now, 19-year-old Jessica Maes is in jail, accused of attempted first-degree murder. The baby, a healthy 6-pound, 13-ounce, 20 1/2-inch boy, is safe at a hospital.

"I think it's probably pretty close to a miracle" that he survived, Adams County Sheriff's Capt. Craig Coleman said.

The infant was Maes' third child.

Advertisement Detectives believe the teen mother gave birth to the boy about 7 a.m. Friday.

That's when other people living at the house on Nola Drive in unincorporated Adams County said Maes ran to the bathroom. Shortly after that, her family noticed that she appeared to have lost a lot of weight.

Family members had confronted Maes in the weeks before she gave birth, asking her if she was pregnant, police said. Each time, she denied it, telling them she had a medical problem.

Maes told investigators she didn't think she was pregnant

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9NEWS.com

and thought she was just having stomach pains, according to her arrest affidavit.

She was scared after giving birth and didn't know what to do, she told police. She thought the baby was dead because he didn't make a sound. She put the boy in the box and put him in her closet.

But doctors said they found a pacifier in the box, something Maes may have given the child, according to the affidavit.

After the baby was born, Maes took her other sons, a 3-year-old and a 1-year-old, and went to her mother's in Colorado Springs.

The newborn lay in the closet until about 9:30 p.m. Saturday, when Maes' uncle, John Maes, and his girlfriend were watching TV in Jessica's bedroom and heard crying. While John checked outside, his girlfriend searched the room.

She found the cardboard box in the closet, lifted the towel and screamed. The boy had not been cleaned after birth and still had the placenta and umbilical cord attached. She and John called 911.

John Maes declined to talk about the discovery Monday afternoon. He told 9News earlier in the day that his niece is a good mother and he is baffled by her alleged actions.

"To see what I saw is beyond words, ... a baby so helpless," he said. "We're all supporting her. We just don't understand why she did it."

Detectives tracked Maes down in Colorado Springs. After she was taken to the hospital for examination, she was interviewed and arrested. Her other sons are staying with her mother, Coleman said.

Adams County Social Services will decide what happens with the newborn. Under a 2000 law, mothers can legally abandon their babies, if they do so at hospitals or fire stations. Ten babies have been abandoned with at least some compliance with the law since 2001, the most recent number available, said Liz McDonough, the spokeswoman for the state Department of Human Services.

The Adams County abandonment likely wouldn't fall under the law, she said.

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COUNTY MONTHLY REPORTING OF ABANDONED INFANTS

Name of County:	Adams
Number of Abandoned Infants for each month:	
Jan-03	
Feb-03	1
Mar-03	
Apr-03	
May-03	
Jun-03	
Jul-03	
Aug-03	
Sep-03	
Oct-03	
Nov-03	
Dec-03	
If the number is other than zero, please enter the following information:	
Name given to Abandoned Infant	Natashia Doe
Date of Birth or approximate	2/13/2003
Date of Abandonment	2/16/2003
Place Where Abandoned:	
Hospital	
Fire Station	xxxxx
Other (explain)	
Date of Death (if applicable)	
Age of Parent (if known)	
Date of Custody to County (if applicable)	2/17/2003
If child is placed in custody of Dept., we will seek follow-up:	
Date of Termination of Parental Rights	
Date of Placement For Adoption	was placed in legal risk home on 02/17/03 straight to adoption
PREPARED BY:	Peg Taylor

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ABANDONED INFANTS COUNTY REPORTS, 2003

	J	FE	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	CONTACT							
ADAMS	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sue Nichols/Kris Cowperth	February: Firestation						
ALAMOSA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Geri Curtis							
ARAPAHOE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Patty Mead/Diane Ward	Dward@co.arapahoe.co.us						
ARCHULETA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Erlinda Gonzalez/Heidi							
BACA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Linda/Jonna Parker	719-336-7486x127(Linda)- x132 (Jonna)						
BENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Claudia Budd	claudia.budd@bent.co.net						
BOULDER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Mary Horton/Carey Nelson	303-441-1102 Mary						
BROOMFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Debbie Oldenettel							
CHAFFEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	John Niedfeldt							
CHEYENNE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Taunia Lonely/Lara Crowell	719-767-5629						
CLEAR CREEK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Cindy Dicken							
CONEJOS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	JoAnna Lucero							
COSTILLA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Alfredo Chavez							
CROWLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Robert.Keenan@state.co.us							
CUSTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Laura Lockhart							
DELTA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Chuck Lemoine/Susan Blain	Ph#970-874-2058						
DENVER	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Shirley Hall	Found on hood of car - Not criteria for New Law - Do not report						
DOLORES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Melodie Heaton/Dennis Story (12/03)							
DOUGLAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Jerry Paulsen							
EAGLE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Clora (Renee) Fields							
EL PASO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Terrie Ryan-Thomas							
ELBERT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Linda Norris							
FREMONT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	MaryElin Stratton/Brenda Ball (12/03)							
GARFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Lynn Renick x1/Tara Saya/Jc	Reported Dice kids for 5/03-Kyle approx. 20 months old & Kylie approx. 8 months old						
GILPIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Robert.Agard@state.co.us							
GRAND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Taunia Shipman							
GUNNISON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Brandy James							
HINSDALE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Brandy James							
HUERFANO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Anita Cordova							
JACKSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	phillip.maes@state.co.us							
JEFFERSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sue McDonald							
KIOWA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Dennis Pearson							
KIT CARSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Kindra.Mulch@state.co.us and Linda Liebl							
LA PLATA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Martha Johnson							
LAKE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Georgine Bogovich							
LARIMER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ginny Riley							

ABANDONED INFANTS COUNTY REPORTS, 2003

LAS ANIMAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Philomena Moniot/Robert Bertolino (12/03)						
LINCOLN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Patricia Phillips/Colette Bark	719-743-2404x145/Colette x141					
LOGAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Betty Zimmerman						
MESA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	Greg Meier						
MINERAL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Emilia Chavez						
MOFFAT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Marie Peer						
MONTEZUMA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Dennis.Story@state.co.us						
MONTROSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Mable Risch						
MORGAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Ryan Tofflemire						
OTERO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Sara.Chambers@state.co.us						
OURAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Allan Gerstle						
PARK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Mary Baydarin						
PHILLIPS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Rachel Crist						
PITKIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Kate Jangula						
PROWERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Linda Fairbain/Jonna Parker						
PUEBLO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Annette Zimmer						
RIO BLANCO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Patricia Thompson						
RIO GRANDE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Emilia Chavez						
ROUTT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Michael Sidinger						
SAGUACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Susie Jordan						
SAN JUAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Martha Johnson						
SAN MIGUEL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Allan Gerstle						
SEDGWICK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Kathy Reano/Lisa Ault						
SUMMIT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Susan Gruber						
TELLER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Bill Schultz						
WASHINGTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Jerri Spear						
WELD	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	Heather Walker						
YUMA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Debra Colglazier/Tom Westfall						