

OFFENSE REPORT
WCS009OFF001679

WASHINGTON CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Printed On: 11/10/2009 @ 09:19

Weapon
Location Category
Location Type
Location Description
Location Status
Number of Premises Burglarized 0
Target
Entry Method
Point of Entry (POE)
POE Visible From
Point of Exit
Suspect Actions
Circumstances
Weather
Lighting Condition
Security Used
Crime Scene? : No
If NO, Explain :
Crime Scene Officer:
Physical Evidence Collected: 0

< NARRATIVE >

DATE	TIME	TYPE	OFFICER REPORTING	CALL #	REP TAKER	EDIT DATE	EDIT TIME
11/1/2009	14:40	INITIAL	STANDLAND, JOHN DOUGLA	W38	KENNYBROCK	11/6/2009	14:08

Status: UNAPPROVED

CAD INCIDENT DISPOSITION CODE: [S] [02] [10] [] On listed date and time I was dispatched to 793 C Brown St. in reference to a missing seven month old child. As I deemed this an emergency call I proceeded with lights and siren activated to the scene. Upon arrival on the scene I made contact with two subjects later identified as the missing child's parents, James Russell Dedrick and Crystal Lynn Mercer. Mr. Dedrick was standing outside the residence dressed in only blue jeans. He was visibly upset and appeared to have been crying. I attempted to calm him down so I could get accurate information from him. At this point I made contact with Ms. Crystal Lynn Mercer who is the missing child's mother. Upon my arrival Ms. Mercer was sitting on a rock outside the residence smoking a cigarette. She was not in an emotional state and simply stated to me that she couldn't find her baby. At this point Deputy Ricky Thompson arrived on scene and I advised him of Ms. Mercer's response to me when I arrived on scene which he then observed and we discussed whether this could possibly be an unfounded call due to it being Halloween and the non emotional nature of a mother who just reported her baby missing. But at this point we began a thorough investigation. According to Ms. Mercer's initial statements to me, she put her daughter to bed at around 0200 hrs on today's date in a crib that was approximately two feet away from her bed. She advised she woke up at around 0900 hrs but did not look at the crib to check on the child. She then stated she finally got up at around 1150 hrs and discovered her child missing. The scene was as follows: Myself and Deputy Thompson entered the single wide mobile home and directly across from the door was a bathroom. We went to the right into a bedroom that was very small and observed a bed and a baby crib beside the bed which was approximately two feet from the bed. As we exited this room we went back down the hallway passed the door we came in and observed another smaller bedroom which Ms. Mercer advised was Shannon's bedroom but that she sleeps in her room. On past this was the open living room and kitchen.

All of the home was very cluttered and dirty. I observed roaches throughout the home and there was cloths and garbage everywhere. Myself and Deputy Thompson began searching the home for the child with no success. I then quickly confirmed Ms. Mercers story again. This time she advised that when she woke up she found the front door open and her wallet was missing. She advised that she always locks the door before going to bed. I found no signs of forced entry on any door or window. After confirming with Ms. Mercer again that her child was in fact at the residence and that she was not with any friend or relative I contacted Sgt. Rackard and advised him of the situation. A short time later Capt. James Strickland arrived on the scene and I briefed him of the situation. Capt. Strickland advised me to take Mr. Dedrick and Ms. Mercer to the Sheriffs office for interview. After taking them to the office I was notified by Deputy Thompson who was at the scene and had it secured that a witness observed a silver van leaving the residence at around 0900 hrs on this date. Mr. Dedrick advised that his step sister, Susan Baker has a van matching that description and that the child had been staying with Ms. Baker during the past week. I then went to 3395 Orange Hill Rd. and made contact with Ms. Susan Baker and her husband James Baker. There was a silver van there matching the description given by the witness. I made contact with the Bakers and advised them why I was there. Ms. Baker immediately became upset and began crying when I advised her that Shannon was missing. She advised that she keeps Shannon all the time and had just took her back to Ms. Mercer the day before. She advised that the reason she keeps her was that Ms. Mercer did not take care of her and on this last occasion she found Shannon with a rash all over her and what appeared to be roach bites on her. She advised that she took Shannon home and cleaned her up and fed her. While talking to the Baker's about Shannon Dedrick, Susan and James Baker consented to allow me to walk through there home and perform a cursory search. I entered the home through the back door of the residence. I preformed a cursory search by walking through each room and looking in the open areas and by looking through the baby bed and linens in the living room. At the request of Sgt. Kenny Brock I asked the Bakers to come to the Sheriffs office for an interview. Before leaving the residence Ms. Baker began crying again and stated to me that Ms. Mercer had told her several times that she wanted to kill Shannon because she did not want her but that she wanted to have another baby and did not want Shannon there. Ms. Baker stated that this conversation happened on several occasions. At this point all information I obtained during my initial investigation was turned over to Capt. Strickland and Sgt. Brock. All other witness information will be entered by Deputy Thompson. Case turned over to investigations.

11/2/2009 09:12 SUPPLEMENT THOMPSON, RICKY W36 THOMPSONR 11/2/2009 12:51

Status: UNAPPROVED

Upon my arrival at 793 C Brown St. Chipley, FL at approximately 11:41 hrs, I observed several people standing next to a woman sitting on a rock smoking a cigarette. The woman that was sitting was later identified as Crystina L. Mercer, the mother of the missing child. Ms. Mercer was just sitting there unemotional smoking. I asked what happened and she simply stated I cant find my baby. I asked all of the persons to stay where they were. I then observed Deputy Standland talking to a white male that was introduced to me by Deputy Standland as James R. Dedrick the baby's father. Mr. Dedrick was dressed only in a pair of jeans and seemed to have been crying. Deputy Standland and I then entered the single wide mobile home (to look for the child) and directly across from the door was a bathroom. We went to the right into a bedroom that was very small and observed a bed and a basinet beside the bed which was approximately two feet from the bed. I noticed a machete next to the bed in an olive green scabbard. I also noticed a baby bottle in the basinet that had a white liquid in

it that appeared to be milk. As we exited this room we went back down the hallway passed the door we came in and observed another smaller bedroom which Ms. Mercer advised was Shannon's bedroom but that she sleeps in her room. On past this was the open living room and kitchen. The entire residence was dirty with personal belongings strewn about haphazardly. There were numerous dirty dishes in the sink, a litter box was in dire need of cleaning with visible cat feces in and around the litter box. I observed roaches throughout the home and garbage everywhere. We were unable to locate the child.

At this time I exited the residence and began to interview the persons that were outside.

[REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] stated that she saw a gray mini van driving up the driveway at approximately 0915 hrs.

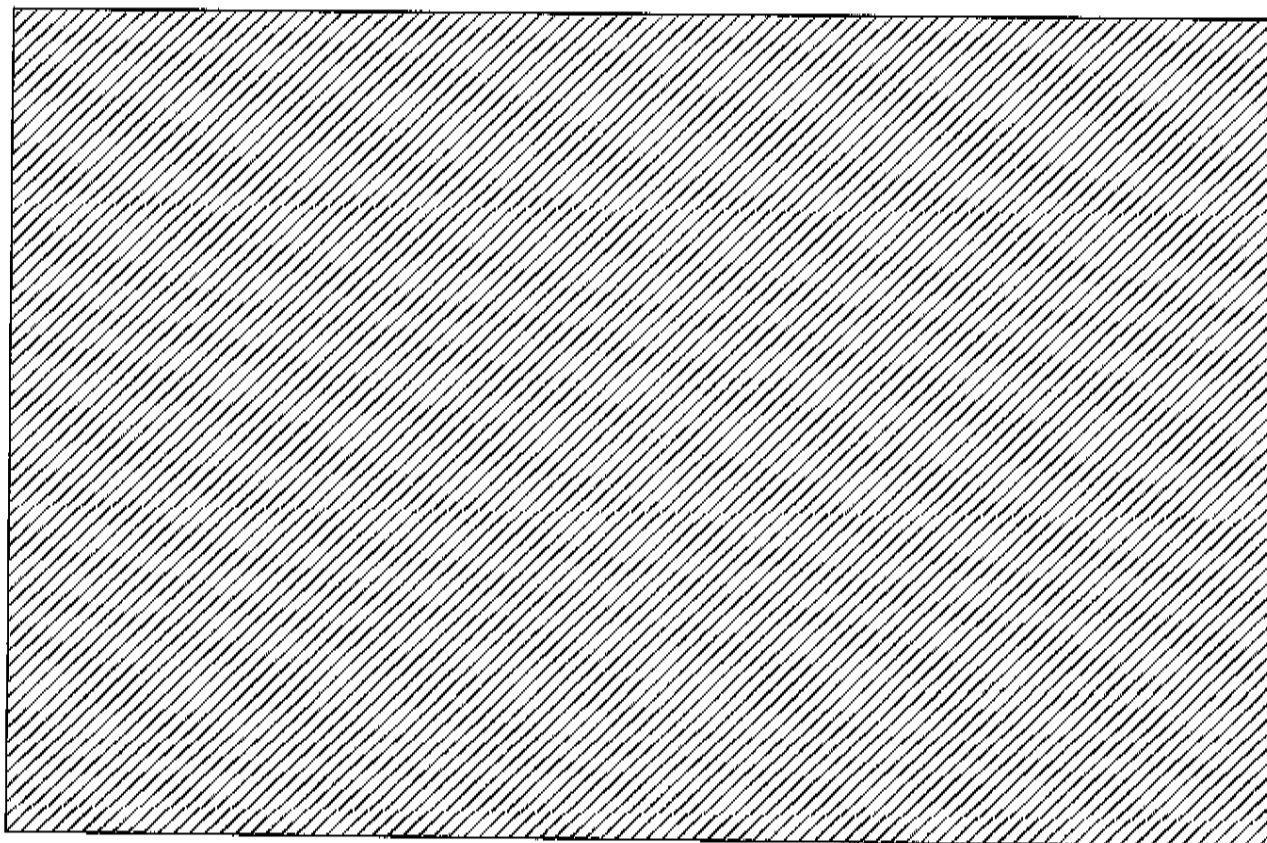
[REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] stated that she did not see anything.

[REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] stated that she did not see anything.

[REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] stated that he did not see anything.

[REDACTED] who resides at [REDACTED] stated that she did not see anything.

At this time Deputy Standland Departed with the mother and father en route to the Sheriff's Office per Captain Strickland. I secured the scene and awaited further instructions.



DISPATCHER: Washington 911

CALLER: Yes my little girl I woke up this morning and my 6 month old daughter is ugh mi, 7 month old daughter is missing. My front door it looks like it's been jimmed open today. The front the top notch

DISPATCHER: What's your address?

CALLER: 793

DISPATCHER: 793 what?

CALLER: C Brown Street

DISPATCHER: (10-4 I also have a signal 8 8 month old).

CALLER: 10-4

DISPATCHER: O.k. when how old is the child?

CALLER: 7 months old

DISPATCHER: (10-4 I still have the complainant 10-12 911 advise 7 months old) when's the last time you saw the child?

CALLER: Um last night when I put her to bed.

DISPATCHER: Is there anyone who could have her?

CALLER: Not that I know of ma'am but I'm fixing to call my sister-n-law and my other sister-n-law and see if either one of them stopped by.

DISPATCHER: O.K what's your name?

CALLER: Crystina Mercer

DISPATCHER: O.k. and what's your phone number Crystina?

CALLER: I don't have a phone number ma'am I'm using a neighbors phone.

DISPATCHER: O.k. what when you put her to bed what was she wearing?

CALLER: A diaper, cause it was hot.

DISPATCHER: O.k. can you tell anything about her what color is her hair? color her eyes?

CALLER: She's got a little bit of dark hair on her head, her eyes are baby blue and just little bit chunky.

DISPATCHER: Is she a white female?

CALLER: Yes ma'am

DISPATCHER: O.k.

CALLER: How long is it going to take the officer to get here ma'am?

DISPATCHER: Hang on just a second for me o.k. I'm going to I'm gone a need you I'm still here alright?

CALLER: Alright (the lady I'm talking to I think she's gone a meet me here)

DISPATCHER: O.k. still there?

CALLER: Yes ma'am

DISPATCHER: O.k. now what were you saying about your door?

CALLER: Uh, my door?

DISPATCHER: You said your door something about your door ?

CALLER: We have a lock on the top of our door?

DISPATCHER: (unintelligible)

CALLER: I know for a fact I locked it last night I woke up this morning and it was open the whole door.

DISPATCHER: O.k. is there anybody who ha does it look like somebody cut the lock or

CALLER: No ma'am

DISPATCHER: O.k. does does anybody have a key?

CALLER: No ma'am it's one of those sliding locks.

DISPATCHER: O.k. I'm going to let you go if you could call your sister- n- laws or whoever see if one of them has the child.

CALLER: O.k.

DISPATCHER: And there's somebody coming they're they're coming uh from Greenhead and then I've got another one coming from about Vernon so it's going to take um a few minutes but they're on the way.

CALLER: Alright

DISPATCHER: O.k. (unintelligible)