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46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
Subject: Press Release
Date: August 28, 2019

Formal charges filed against Londa R. Couch

On today's date, the Delaware County Prosecutor filed formal charges against Londa R. Couch. These charges include Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 Felony and Failure to Report Child Abuse or Neglect, a Class B Misdemeanor. A copy of the charging information is attached. The case will be prosecuted by Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman and Deputy Prosecutor Maricel Driscoll.

It is important to remember that an arrest and/or the filing of a criminal charge is simply an allegation and is not evidence of guilt. All suspects are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

The ethical rules for prosecutors in Indiana prohibit further comment on this matter. At this time, there will be no further comment.

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STATE OF INDIANA)
)
DELAWARE COUNTY)

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

2019 TERM

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, Brooke Barnard , a police officer of the Yorktown Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested, without Warrant, upon the charge(s) and circumstances hereinafter stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Londa R Couch CASE REPORT #: 2019-02062

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 2421 S Plum St, Yorktown, IN, 47396

ARRESTEE DATE OF BIRTH: 01/26/1965

DATE OF ARREST: 08/23/2019 TIME OF ARREST: 2:00 PM

CHARGE 1: Neglect of a Dependent IC 35-46-1-4 a LEVEL 6 Felony

CHARGE 2: Failure to Report IC 31-33-22-1 a CLASS B Misdemeanor

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said arrestee committed the aforesaid offense (s) are as follows:

On August 22, 2019 Brian Couch was arrested on multiple counts of Child Molest to his 14 year old daughter. Brian Couch was read his Miranda Rights and they were waived. Mr. Couch gave a confession of sexually abusing his daughter 20 times, giving oral sex, and sexual intercourse. Mr. Couch advised that this happened over the course of several years up until November of 2018 when he told his wife, Londa Couch, what had occurred.

On August 22, 2019 at 9:03 PM I read Londa Couch her Miranda Rights and they were waived. Londa Couch confirmed that in November of 2018 she became aware of her husband, Brian Couch, sexually assaulting their 14 year old daughter over the course of several years. When Londa became aware of the sexual abuse she stated she had briefly considered reporting it but instead gave Brian Couch a set of "rules" which he followed, according to Londa Couch.

In a forensic interview with the Couch's minor daughter (A.C.) at the Child Advocacy Center, A.C. disclosed that she had been being sexually abused by Brian Couch beginning at age 6 almost daily until November of 2018. A.C. reported that she told her father, Brian Couch, he needed to tell her mother, Londa Couch, or she was going to. A.C. stated that this was when Londa Couch became aware of the sexual abuse.

A.C. stated Londa Couch took her and her younger sister to stay at a relative's house for the weekend but then returned to the residence where they lived, 2421 S Plum St Yorktown, IN, and lived in the same house with Brian Couch until May of 2019 when A.C. requested to go live with another relative in Cowan.

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STATE OF INDIANA)
)
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Londa Couch never reported the sexual abuse and knowingly allowed both minor daughters to live in the house with Brian Couch for over half of a year until the victim went to live with a relative. I, Officer Brooke Barnard, made arrangements with the Department of Child Services to arrest Londa once they found placement for the other minor daughter involved. On August 23, 2019 I received a tip from Londa Couch's family member stating she was planning on leaving with her other daughter to go out of state.

Londa Couch was arrested at her home, 2421 S Plum St, taken to the Yorktown Police Department where she did not want to make any further statements. Londa Couch was then transported to the Delaware County Jail in a marked police vehicle.

DATED: 08/23/2019

OFFICER: Brooke Barnard



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JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING A JUDICIAL OFFICER OF DELAWARE COUNTY, AND HAVING REVIEWED THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT, NOW DETERMINES THAT PROBABLE CAUSE EXISTED FOR THE ARREST OF SAID ARRESTEE AND NOW FIXES BAIL IN THE PENAL SUM OF \$_____.

DATED: _____ SIGNED: _____ TITLE: _____

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Londa R Couch

CASE REPORT #: 2019-02062

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF DELAWARE)

IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 3
CAUSE NUMBER. 18C03-1908-F6

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

LONDA R. COUCH

2421 S. Plum St.
Yorktown, IN 47396

DOB: 1/26/1965
SSN: XXX-XX-2004

Count 1:
Neglect of a Dependent
I.C. 35-46-1-4(a)(1)
a Level 6 Felony

Count 1:

The undersigned says that between November 1, 2018 and August 23, 2019 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Londa R. Couch having the care of Alexia B. Couch, a dependent, did knowingly place said dependent in a situation that endangered the dependent's life or health contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-46-1-4(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

ERIC M. HOFFMAN
Prosecuting Attorney
46th Judicial Circuit of Indiana

BY: /s/ Maricel E.V. Driscoll
Maricel E.V. Driscoll 30434-18
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
46th Judicial Circuit of Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF DELAWARE)

IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 3
CAUSE NUMBER. 18C03-1908-F6

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

LONDA R. COUCH

2421 S. Plum St.
Yorktown, IN 47396

DOB: 1/26/1965
SSN: XXX-XX-2004

INFORMATION:

Count 2:
Failure to Make Report
I.C. 31-33-22-1(a)
a Class B Misdemeanor

Count 2:

The undersigned says that between November 1, 2018 and August 23, 2019 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Londa R. Couch, being required to make a report under I.C. 31-33-5-1, did knowingly fail to make said report contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 31-33-22-1(a) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

ERIC M. HOFFMAN
Prosecuting Attorney
46th Judicial Circuit of Indiana

BY: /s/ Maricel E.V. Driscoll
Maricel E.V. Driscoll 30434-18
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
46th Judicial Circuit of Indiana