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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
Subject: Britni Wihebrink Change of Plea
Date: June 3, 2020 2:50 p.m.

**Britni Wihebrink Pleads Guilty to Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in
Death**

Muncie Indiana – This afternoon, Britni Wihebrink pled guilty to Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in Death, a Level 1 Felony. During the Change of Plea Hearing, Wihebrink admitted that on September 5, 2018 she was drinking to the point of intoxication at her Daleville Indiana apartment. According to her blood toxicology, she had a BAC of .155. As a result, at some point that afternoon she fell asleep in the apartment. Her two (2) year old son J.S. was able to leave the apartment and entered Wihebrink's car which was parked in the parking lot. He closed himself in the passenger compartment of the car and eventually passed out. He was found later and pronounced dead. An autopsy revealed that the cause of J.S.'s death was hyperthermia with a contributing cause of elevated temperature in an enclosed space. Wihebrink admitted that she was guilty of Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in Death in that she placed J.S. in a situation that endangered his life or health which resulted in the death of J.S.

The Honorable John M. Feick, Judge of the Delaware Circuit Court 4, found that a factual basis for the plea existed and took the guilty plea under advisement pending a plea acceptance/sentencing hearing which was set for July 1, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Wihebrink faces 20 – 30 years in prison.