



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
ERIC M. HOFFMAN, PROSECUTOR
46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

100 W. MAIN STREET, ROOM 312
MUNCIE, IN 47305

TELEPHONE 765-747-7801
FAX: 765-747-7830

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
Date: August 21, 2020

Prosecutor formally files charges against Amber N. Vannatter

Muncie Indiana – On today's date the Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman formally charged Amber Vannatter with the following criminal offenses:

- Count 1: Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14 years of age, a Level 3 felony.
- Count 2: Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14 years of age, a Level 3 felony.
- Count 3: Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14 years of age, a Level 3 felony.
- Count 4: Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14 years of age, a Level 3 felony.
- Count 5: Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury, a Level 3 felony.
- Count 6: Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury, a Level 3 felony.
- Count 7: False Informing, a Class B Misdemeanor.

The charges are pending in the Delaware Circuit Court No. 2. The Honorable Judge Kimberly Dowling has set the case for an initial hearing on Thursday August 27, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. Copies of the charging information and Affidavit of Probable Cause that were filed with the Court are attached. Vannatter is currently held in the Delaware County Jail under a \$60,000 cash only bail which was set by the Court.

Pursuant to Indiana law, each Level 3 felony is punishable by 3 – 16 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine. A Class B Misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail and up to a \$1,000 fine.

It is important to remember that any accusation that someone has committed a crime, 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 1839

2020 TERM

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, **Ryan Plummer**, a police officer of the Muncie 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.

MPD Case Report # 20-31179

NAME OF ARRESTEE: **Amber N Vannatter** D.O.B.: **07/08/2000**ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: **2728 Dellview Dr, Fort Wayne IN 46816**DATE OF ARREST: **08/15/20** TIME OF ARREST: **00:16**

CHARGE 1 Battery a Level 3 Felony

Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14

CHARGE 2 Neglect of a Dependant a Level 3 Felony

Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury

CHARGE 3 Battery a Level 5 Felony

Resulting in Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14

CHARGE 4 Neglect of a Dependant a Level 5 Felony

Resulting in Bodily Injury

CHARGE 5 Battery a Level 5 Felony

Resulting in Bodily Injury to a Person Less than 14

CHARGE 6 Neglect of a Dependant a Level 5 Felony

Resulting in Bodily Injury

On 8/14/2020 at approximately 22:50, I (Detective Ryan Plummer) responded to 2401 W University, Ball Memorial Hospital, on reports of a possible Child Abuse/Neglect. During the course of my investigation, I made contact with the mother of the child, a female just under 1 year in age. It was found that the child was in the care of a friend at the family's residence. The caregiver identified as Amber Vannatter, brought the child to the mothers place of employment at approximately 2130, stating the child was bleeding from her mouth. The mother immediately sought medical treatment for the child. The child was treated for multiple large abrasions on her face, torso, and legs. The child also was found to be suffering from a broken wrist, as well as injuries to her mouth. The child also appeared to have several

STATE OF INDIANA)
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IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

2020 TERM

burns surrounding the injuries. Officers located Vannatter, at the residence and she was transported for interview. Officers while processing the scene found red stains on a treadmill inside the home. Vannatter after being advised of her rights agreed to an interview. Vannatter gave several different accounts about how the child received injuries that did not make sense or match the pattern of injuries observed. Vannatter advised that she got into an argument with her ex-boyfriend and was feeling depressed. The child work up and started crying Vannatter then held her face against the treadmill after plugging it in, and turning it on. Vannatter advised that she held the child against the treadmill for a while. Vannatter then retrieved a lighter and started burning the child on her neck and arms. Vannatter also advised that she placed the child on a bench after the incident, and while the child was wriggling in pain, she fell off the table and hit her face. As the interview progressed Vannatter admitted to having burnt the child with a lighter, while caring for the baby, on at least two different occasions. Vannatter denied striking or hitting he child.

Medical staff advised that it was likely that the victim could have scaring from the injuries. Further medical investigation is on-going at this time.

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

I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

/s/ OFFICER: Ryan Plummer 1306

DATE: 8/15/2020

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 bond in the penal sum of \$ \$60,000 cash.

DATED: 8/15/20

SIGNED: 

CHARGES TO BE FILED BY: _____

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT



Vannatter, Amber Nicole
Vannatter, Amber 08/15/20
08/15/2020 04:52

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2
) SS:
COUNTY OF DELAWARE) CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2008-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 1:

Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily
Injury to a Person Less Than 14 Years
Old
I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j)
a Level 3 Felony

Count 1:

The undersigned says that on or about August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter, a person at least eighteen (18) years of age, did knowingly touch Victim # 1, a person under the age of fourteen (14), in a rude, insolent, or angry manner by placing Victim # 1's skin onto the walking belt of a moving treadmill resulting in serious bodily injury, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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

BY: /s/ Eric M. Hoffman
Eric M. Hoffman 24232-18
Prosecuting Attorney
46th Judicial Circuit of Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA

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IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2

) SS:

COUNTY OF DELAWARE

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CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2008-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 2:

Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily
Injury to a Person Less Than 14 Years
Old
I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j)
a Level 3 Felony

Count 2:

The undersigned says that on or about August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter, a person at least eighteen (18) years of age, did knowingly touch Victim # 1, a person under the age of fourteen (14), in a rude, insolent, or angry manner by burning Victim # 1's neck with a lighter resulting in serious bodily injury, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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STATE OF INDIANA

VS

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 3:

Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily
Injury to a Person Less Than 14 Years
Old
I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j)
a Level 3 Felony

Count 3:

The undersigned says that between approximately August 1, 2020 and August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter, a person at least eighteen (18) years of age, did knowingly touch Victim # 1, a person under the age of fourteen (14), in a rude, insolent, or angry manner by burning Victim # 1's arm with a lighter resulting in serious bodily injury, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2008-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 4:

Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily
Injury to a Person Less Than 14 Years
Old
I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j)
a Level 3 Felony

Count 4:

The undersigned says that between approximately August 1 and August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter, a person at least eighteen (18) years of age, did knowingly touch Victim # 1, a person under the age of fourteen (14), in a rude, insolent, or angry manner by burning Victim # 1 on the back of her neck/back with a lighter resulting in serious bodily injury, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-1(c)(1) and I.C. 35-42-2-1(j) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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STATE OF INDIANA)
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COUNTY OF DELAWARE) CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2008-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 5:
Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in
Serious Bodily Injury
I.C. 35-46-1-4(a)(1) and I.C. 35-46-1-4(b)
(2)
a Level 3 Felony

Count 5:

The undersigned says that between approximately August 1, 2020 and August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter having the care of Victim # 1, a dependent, did knowingly place said dependent in a situation that endangered the dependent's life or health, and that said act resulted in serious bodily injury to said dependent, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-46-1-4(a)(1) and I.C. 35-46-1-4(b)(2) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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STATE OF INDIANA

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IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2

) SS:

COUNTY OF DELAWARE

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CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2008-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 6:

Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in
Serious Bodily Injury
I.C. 35-46-1-4(a)(3) and I.C. 35-46-1-4(b)
(2)
a Level 3 Felony

Count 6:

The undersigned says that on or about August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter having the care of Victim # 1, a dependent, did knowingly deprive said dependent of necessary support, to-wit: timely medical care; and that said act resulted in serious bodily injury to said dependent, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-46-1-4(a)(3) and I.C. 35-46-1-4(b)(2) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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COUNTY OF DELAWARE

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CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2008-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

Count 7:

False Informing

I.C. 35-44.1-2-3(d)(1)

a Class B Misdemeanor

AMBER NICOLE VANNATTER

2728 Dellview Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

DOB: 7/8/2000

SSN: XXX-XX-0207

Count 7:

The undersigned says that on or about August 14, 2020 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, Amber Nicole Vannatter did give false information in the official investigation of a crime, to-wit: told Muncie Police Officer Robert Wells and/or Cywettnie Brown her name was Emily; knowing said information to be false contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-44.1-2-3(d)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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

BY: /s/ Eric M. Hoffman
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Prosecuting Attorney
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