



December 10, 2009

MADIGAN: STERLING DAYCARE PROVIDER INDICTED FOR SHAKING INFANT

Chicago - Attorney General Lisa Madigan today announced that a Whiteside County grand jury has indicted a Sterling woman for shaking an infant girl and causing her to suffer significant head injuries.

"This form of child abuse affects up to 1,600 children every year and can cause severe brain damage, lifelong disability, and tragically, even death," Madigan said. "We take these allegations very seriously and will prosecute this case to the fullest extent."

Karyn McCallister, 38, who operated an unlicensed daycare facility out of her home, was charged with one count of aggravated battery of a child, a Class X felony punishable by 6-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), and one count of reckless conduct, a Class 4 felony punishable by 1-3 years in IDOC.

On Feb. 24, 2009, McCallister allegedly shook a four-month-old child in her care multiple times after the infant began crying. As a result of repeated shaking, the infant sustained multiple subdural hematomas and extensive head trauma.

The public is reminded that these charges are merely accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in court.

Senior Assistant Attorney General Neal B. Goodfriend and Assistant Attorney General Donna Jo Maki are handling the case for Madigan's Criminal Enforcement Division.

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