



Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

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Media Release-Update

Incident Date: 2/28/2013
Incident Location: N. Yarmouth, ME
Release Date: 2/28/2013
Release Time: 11:00pm

This is an update on the status of the investigation of the missing child, Hazel Richards.

At approximately 1945hrs, CCSO Detectives spoke via telephone with James Richards, who is the biological father of Hazel Richards. James told investigators that he had just arrived in Boston, MA after flying in from Indiana. James indicated that he was currently with his daughter Hazel, and his mother, Melanie Wever. James agreed to meet with the Massachusetts State Police to discuss this case.

Massachusetts State Police met with James, Hazel, and Melanie in Stoneham, MA. Hazel was unharmed. Both James and Melanie Wever have cooperated with Massachusetts authorities and were taken to the State Police Metro Barracks in Medford, MA for questioning.

As the investigation unfolded and additional facts were disclosed, contact was made with the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office. It was decided by the DA's office not to charge Melanie Wever with any crime at this time. Hazel was released to the custody of her biological father, James.

In the coming days the case will be reviewed by the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office for the determination if any criminal charges in Maine are warranted.

Further inquiries regarding this press release can be addressed to:
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