

MICHAEL J. ROURKE
District Attorney



ROBERT W. MILLER
Assistant District Attorney

915 10TH Street
P.O. Box 1167
Greeley, CO 80632
Phone: (970) 356-4010
Fax: (970) 352-8023
www.weldda.com

Office of the District Attorney
Nineteenth Judicial District

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 9-14-16
Contact: Tyler Hill • thill@weldgov.com • 970.400.4702

**Judge Finds Probable Cause in Child Abuse
Resulting in Death Case**

WELD COUNTY, Colo. (Weld County D.A.) – A Weld County mother charged with child abuse resulting in the death of a 4-month-old boy in 2015 will head to trial in the coming months.

During a preliminary trial Wednesday afternoon, Judge Julie Hoskins found there was enough evidence against Angelica Chavez, 28, of Greeley, to proceed to trial.

Chavez is accused of neglecting her 4-month-old son, Donovan Archuleta. She's charged with one count of Child Abuse Resulting in Death, a class 2 felony, which carries a maximum sentence of 48 years.

The boy's father, Robert Nathaniel Archuleta, 31, and 53-year-old grandmother, Sandy Archuleta, face the same charge.

Authorities were first notified on August 2, 2015 when the family called 911 after Donovan stopped breathing. An officer performed CPR until he was taken to a Denver hospital, where he was later pronounced dead.

According to court records, Sandy Archuleta was taking care of Donovan in the week leading up to his death, but Judge Hoskins found probable cause that his mother [Chavez] knowingly or recklessly placed the child in a situation that could cause harm or death.

Medical examiners said Donovan had broken ribs, chemical burns to his face, mouth and gums, a sepsis infection from pneumonia and red bruises caused by pinching from tweezers. Records also show chemical burns exposed the bone on the roof of Donovan's mouth.

The autopsy states Donovan died of injuries and neglect leading to infection and dehydration.

What's Next:

An arraignment for Chavez is set for September 29th at 11:30 a.m.

Meanwhile, a disposition is set for the Archuleta's on September 29th at 11:30 a.m.

###

The filing of a criminal charge is merely a formal accusation that an individual(s) committed a crime(s) under Colorado laws. A defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. See Colo. RPC 3.6