



BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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PRESS RELEASE

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Rainbow Fentanyl Child Overdose: Charges filed against Parents

The parents of a two-year-old boy, who is believed to have overdosed on his mother's illicit and colorful fentanyl, were in Butte County Superior Court this afternoon to face felony child endangerment charges.

Justin Bryce Zedaker, II, 22, and Allie May Stuber, 23, both of Concow, were arraigned on the charges and had their case continued for a plea on October 26, 2022.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the charges stem from the afternoon of October 17, 2022, when the Butte County Sheriff's Office responded to a call regarding a two-year-old child who was having a medical emergency.

Zedaker and Stuber had taken the child to the Concow Cal Fire station to seek medical attention. Due to the severity of the child's condition, a medical helicopter was called and flew the child to Enloe Hospital in Chico. The emergency responders recognized the child's symptoms as a possible opioid overdose and the flight team administered Naloxone (commonly referred to as "Narcan"). The child responded well to the treatment and is expected to be okay.

The couple initially reported the child may have gotten into some unknown substance while at a babysitter's house. However, Butte County Narcotics Task Force (BINTF) agents were called to investigate the case and soon discovered the child was never at a babysitter's house. Instead, agents developed evidence that the mother of the child, Stuber, had left her multi-colored fentanyl powder on a shelf near where she and the child's father, Zedaker, were asleep that afternoon in their fifth-wheel trailer. Zedaker also had a personal amount of methamphetamine on the bed.

Ramsey said the fentanyl looked like Lucky Charms marshmallows, an appearance that would prompt most children to put the extremely deadly drug in their mouths. When Stuber and Zedaker awoke, they discovered their child was shaking and having a medical emergency. The fentanyl container, a toy skull, was wet from the child's saliva.

Further investigation by BINTF revealed that Stuber and Zedaker had their own Narcan, but did not administer it to the child, as they were unsure of its effects on a child. Instead, Stuber packed

up her remaining fentanyl and paraphernalia, and then took the child to the nearby Cal Fire station to try to get help.

Ramsey said his office has charged Stuber with a felony count of child endangerment and a misdemeanor count of possession of fentanyl; and has charged Zedaker with a felony count of child endangerment and a misdemeanor count of possession of methamphetamine.

The two face a maximum sentence of six years in prison if convicted. Both parents remain in custody on \$150,000 bail.

The child is in the custody of Butte County child protective services.