



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Town of Vienna Police Department Charges Fairfax County School Bus Driver and Assistant with Felony Child Abuse & Neglect



Pictured from left to right, Teresa Wessells and Rqia Tabite

On March 18, 2022, Vienna Police officers responded to a school bus stop for a verbal altercation between a Fairfax County Public School Bus driver and a child's parent. The parent's child had been injured on the bus while riding home from school. Firefighters from the Fairfax County Fire Department transported the child to an area hospital for treatment at the family's request. It was later determined that the 3-year-old special needs child had suffered a severe head injury. The Vienna Police Department, Fairfax County Child Protective Services, and Fairfax County Public Schools launched independent follow-up investigations. With the full cooperation of Fairfax County Public Schools, the Vienna Police investigation determined that the bus driver and attendant failed to provide proper care to the child.

In consultation with the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, Vienna Police detectives obtained warrants charging the bus driver RQIA TABITE, 36, of Falls Church, VA and attendant TERESA WESSELLS, 70, of Falls Church, VA, with one count each of Virginia Code 18.2-371.1 Abuse and Neglect of a Child, a class 4 Felony. The warrants were obtained on May 19, 2022. On May 20, 2022, the Fairfax County Police took both suspects into custody and brought them before a magistrate. Both were released on unsecured bonds.

The child is not being identified at this time but is at home with his family and is receiving necessary treatment.

**For Further Information please contact
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