



PRESS RELEASE

Case #13-505012

DOG ALERTS OWNER TO ENDANGERED CHILD



Rochelle Huegli

On Friday, April 05, 2013, at about 1:30 p.m., Kerri Cooper, 23, was in her Rock Creek apartment when she noticed her dog looking out the window and barking uncharacteristically. Ms. Cooper went to the window and saw a small child walking by himself in the grass covered courtyard. She didn't know it at the time, but the child is only two-and-a-half years old.

Ms. Cooper observed that the child was headed for a large pond that is in the middle of the courtyard. Ms. Cooper could not see anyone else around and decided to go outside. By the time she got to the child, he was neck-deep in the pond. She pulled him out and took him to the office while calling 911 to report the found child. While deputies were responding, the grandmother of the child came to the office looking for the child.

Deputies contacted the grandmother, Rochelle Huegli, 58, who lives in the complex. They learned that Ms. Huegli was babysitting her grandson and had fallen asleep. They also determined that she had been consuming alcohol and was not aware that the boy was able to open the door to the outside of the apartment.

Ms. Huegli was arrested for Criminal Mistreatment I and Child Neglect II. The boy was turned over to his parents.

Ms. Cooper and her attentive dog are credited with saving the life of this young child.