

## COBB COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## Message from Chief John R. Houser

The Cobb County Police Department is conducting an investigation into the tragic death of a 22 month old toddler that was left unattended in his car seat for an extended period of time on June 18<sup>th</sup>. During the course of their investigation detectives began to obtain physical evidence and testimonial evidence that lead them to believe a more serious crime has been committed.

I understand that tragic accidents similar to this one do occur and in most cases the parent simply made a mistake that cost them the life of their child. This investigation, although similar in nature to others, must be weighed on its own merit and the facts that lead our detectives to charge the father must be presented at the appropriate time during the judicial process. The chain of events that occurred in this case does not point toward simple negligence and evidence will be presented to support this allegation.

I fully understand the emotional impact this case has on the public, and as concerned citizens and parents everyone wants to know how this could happen. With that being said, the Police Department can not share specific details of the investigation with the public. As the investigation continues, there will be times during the process that additional information will be released.

In fairness to everyone involved in this emotional case, I would ask that you not make conclusions based on rumor or suspicions and let our judicial system work as it is designed.

John R. Houser

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Chief of Police

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