



Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department Media Information Release

Mother Charged for Leaving Child Unattended

On May 16, 2008 at approximately 8:49p.m. Officer Lee Monaco of the Town of Vienna Police Department was patrolling in the area of the Cedar Lane Shopping Center. During his time there, Officer Monaco observed a small boy running in to the CVS store and then back out of the store in an odd manner. The boy then ran up to a family and began walking along with them.

A few minutes later, Officer Monaco observed the same small child running along Cedar Lane all alone. Officer Monaco stopped to check on the welfare of the 6 year old boy at which time the child told him that he needed the help of a police officer. He was attempting to find his mother, 47 year old Barbarita Torres of George Street in Vienna, and was not able to locate her.

Officer Monaco took custody of the boy and attempted to locate the child's home. The child was not wearing shoes and had only socks on his feet. Through investigation Officer Monaco was able to determine that the child resided at an address on George Street. Upon arrival at the home, they found the front door open and nobody was at home.

Approximately one hour later, the mother returned to the home. Ms. Torres stated she was out shopping. Fairfax County Child Protective Services was contacted and will follow up on the case. Ms. Torres was subsequently arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. She was formally charged with Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor and released on a \$1000 bond.

**Please contact MPO Bill Murray for further information at
703.255.6396 or wmurray@viennava.gov**