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For Immediate Release

OFF-DUTY OFFICER CHARGED IN FATAL SHOOTING OF FOUR YEAR-OLD CHILD

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy announced charges in connection with the August 10, 2006 fatal shooting of a four year-old child that occurred at the Parkgrove Street home of Police Officer Louis Anderson, 58, of Detroit.

The child allegedly found Officer Anderson's department-issued weapon in an unsecured location in the house and shot himself. The child died from a fatal gunshot wound to the head and was pronounced dead at the scene of the shooting. Officer Anderson was babysitting his three children, including the victim, at the time of the shooting. The mother of the children was not home.

Officer Anderson has been charged with Involuntary Manslaughter, MCL 750.321, which carries a maximum penalty of fifteen years in prison. He is also charged with Second Degree Child Abuse, which carries a maximum penalty of four years in prison.

"This is inexcusable behavior, especially for a law enforcement officer, said Prosecutor Worthy. How many millions of times do we have to say it? Children and guns don't mix. How much time does it take to secure your guns in your home when children live there?"

The arraignment will take place today at 1:30 p.m. in the 36th District located at 421 Madison Avenue in the City of Detroit.

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