

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

By Captain Randy Ralston
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Release #1:

On March 24, 2015 at approximately 1:13 pm the Garden City Police Department was dispatched to 3101 Belmont St (Bernadine Sitts School) for a reported welfare check of an 11-year-old child.

After the officer arrived on scene the investigation revealed that during a drug and alcohol presentation being conducted by school officials an 11-year-old child reported to school officials that his mother and other adults in his residence were avid drug users and that there was a lot of drug use occurring in his residence. This was reported to the Department of Children and Family (DCF) who in turn reported it to the police.

Officers responded to the residence of 901 Conkling St with DCF to investigate the safety of the residence for the child. When patrol officers arrived on scene contact was made with the mother who denied entry into the residence. The residence was secured pending investigation and application of a search warrant. Officers remained on scene until the search warrant was granted to prevent the destruction of evidence while the application for search warrant was proceeding.

During the service of the search warrant approximately 1 ¼ pounds of suspected marijuana was located to include a lab for manufacturing cannabis oil on the kitchen table and kitchen counters, drug paraphernalia and other items related to the packaging and ingestion of marijuana were also located in the house. The items located presumptively tested positive for the presence of THC and were sent to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation for further testing. The items taken from the residence were within easy reach of the child.

The Garden City Police has completed its investigation and has forwarded the case to the Finney County Attorney's Office for review. No arrests have been made. Due to the nature of the residence and what was located the child was placed into protective custody.

The suspects could possibly face charges of:
Possession of Marijuana with intent to distribute.
Felony Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.
Misdemeanor Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
Endangering a Child

The Garden City Police Department will not release any further information; refer questions or comments to the Finney County Attorney's Office.

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The person (s) involved have not yet been convicted of a crime. Their guilt or innocence must be proven in a court of law and in accordance with the Kansas Statutes. As such, these suspects are innocent until proven otherwise.

The Garden City Police Department respects the rights of those who wish to demonstrate or voice their opinions. We ask that it be done in a peaceful and lawful manner.