



SHERIFF

SEMINOLE COUNTY

NEWS RELEASE

Man arrested in death of 7-month-old child

SEMINOLE CO. (April 21, 2014) – Yesterday, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO) Major Crimes and Crimes Against Children (CAC) units arrested Stephen Rodriguez, 25, of Sanford, for the death of his girlfriend's 7-month-old child, Aiden Downs.

Deputies were called to the residence on April 17 when Rodriguez, who was caring for the child alone, called 911 to report the child, was not breathing. The child was immediately transported to Central Florida Regional Hospital in Sanford and was later transferred to Winnie Palmer Hospital in Orlando, where he passed away two days later.

Rodriguez first told authorities that he dropped the child, which caused the baby to be unresponsive, but he later admitted to shaking the child.

Rodriguez is charged with first-degree murder and aggravated child abuse and was booked into the John E. Polk Correctional Facility. Rodriguez is being held without bond and is scheduled for first appearance today at 1:30 p.m.

Please do not respond back to this email as the account is not monitored. For more information contact:

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