

# Speed, texting cited as factors in crash

## Mother facing murder charge in 4-year-old's death



Knight

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Court records show a Midland City woman charged with murder in the traffic death of her 4-year-old daughter was allegedly under the influence

in conduct which manifested extreme indifference to life and caused the death of her 4-year-old daughter, Zyrloh Tucker, by operating a vehicle after taking a controlled substance and sending and receiving text messages while driving at a dangerously high rate of speed.

Troopers with the Alabama Highway Patrol arrested Knight on May 12, three days after the fatal crash, shortly after she was released from the hospital for treatment to her own injuries in the crash. Troopers charged Knight with murder and two felony counts of first-degree assault.

Adams confirmed records also show the court set a preliminary hearing court date for Knight on June 5 at the Geneva County Courthouse in Geneva. He also confirmed the court has appointed Geneva attorney Amanda Smith to represent Knight in court.

Knight remains held at the Geneva County Jail on bail totaling \$250,000.

According to a statement from Trooper Kevin Cook, Zyrloh died when the 2003 Chevrolet Avalanche in which she was a passenger left the roadway and overturned. Zyrloh was ejected from the vehicle.

Cook said a preliminary investigation showed Zyrloh was not properly restrained in the Avalanche. He said Knight, however, was wearing a seatbelt. Cook said Zyrloh was traveling in a car seat but not properly restrained in the seat.

Cook said the two first-degree assault charges filed against Knight were in connection to the serious physical injury suffered by two other children also inside the vehicle.

Cook said there were seven other children inside the vehicle besides Zyrloh, six of whom are also Knight's children. He did not know if the victims of the assault charges were both also Knight's children.

The single-vehicle crash happened around 6:55 p.m. May 9, about 3 miles east of Geneva on County