



PRESS RELEASE

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Winona County Attorney's Office Reaches Settlement Agreement in CHIPS Case of Madeline Kingsbury's Children

Winona, MN - June 6, 2023 - On June 5, 2023, the Winona County Attorney's Office, representing Winona County Health and Human Services, and the other involved parties reached an agreement in the Children in need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) case involving the children of Madeline Kingsbury. This settlement agreement marks an important step forward in ensuring the well-being of the children.

The CHIPS petition was filed in response to the children's unfortunate situation, where they lacked necessary care due to the disappearance of their mother, Madeline Kingsbury, who held sole custodial rights. With this settlement, the involved parties are affirming the undeniable truth - that Ms. Kingsbury was the children's sole custodial parent and that she is currently missing.

In any CHIPS proceeding, the paramount consideration is the best interests of the child. The primary goal of the CHIPS process is to establish appropriate care and guidance for the children. Recognizing that the absence of a legal custodian in the children's lives contradicted their best interests, this CHIPS adjudication guarantees that the County can continue to act as a temporary legal custodian until the matters of custody and parenting time are eventually determined by a family court or in a permanency action.

At present, this CHIPS matter is still an open and active case, and Winona County still retains temporary custody of the children. For the time being, the children's placement will remain unchanged until the court makes a determination at a later date.

We kindly request the public's cooperation in respecting the privacy of the children during this challenging period. For any inquiries or further information, please reach out to the Winona County Attorney's Office directly.