



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
ERIC M. HOFFMAN, PROSECUTOR  
46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

3100 S. TILLOTSON AVE., SUITE 270  
MUNCIE, IN 47302-6548

TELEPHONE 765-747-7801  
FAX: 765-747-7830

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney  
prosecutor@co.delaware.in.us  
Date: June 8, 2023

**JURY CONVICTS**  
**MAN OF NEGLECT OF A DEPENDENT RESULTING IN DEATH**

*Muncie Indiana* – Today a Delaware County jury deliberated for 2 hours before convicting Nathaniel L. Jordan (DOB 5/29/1990) of:

- Count 1: Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in Death, a Level 1 Felony
- Count 2: Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury, a Level 5 Felony
- Count 3: Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 Felony
- Count 4: Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 Felony
- Count 5: Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 Felony
- Count 6: Driving While Suspended, a Class A Misdemeanor



A copy of the affidavit of probable cause that was filed with the case is attached. The Honorable Linda Ralu Wolf, Judge of the Delaware Circuit Court No. 3 set sentencing for July 6, 2023. Pursuant to Indiana law:

- A Level 1 Felony is punishable by 20 – 40 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Level 5 Felony is punishable by 1 – 6 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- Each Level 6 Felony is punishable by 6 months – 2.5 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Class A Misdemeanor is punishable by up to 1 year in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

On August 15, 2019, a different jury convicted Jordan's co-defendant, Jessica Skeens of:

- Count 1: Neglect of a Dependent Resulting in Death, a Level 1 Felony.
- Count 2: Operating a Vehicle with a Schedule I or II Controlled Substance in body, a Class C Misdemeanor.
- Count 3: Operating a Vehicle while Intoxicated, a Class C Misdemeanor.
- Count 5: Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 Felony.
- Count 6: Neglect of a Dependent, a Level 6 Felony.
- Count 7: Neglect of a Dependent a Level 6 Felony.
- Count 8: Possession of Marijuana, a Class B Misdemeanor.

On September 19, 2019, the Honorable Judge Linda Ralu Wolf sentenced Jessica Skeens to 41 years in prison.

After the verdict was returned, Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman said "I am very happy with the verdict in this case. This has been a very emotional case. Zach and I have worked this difficult case for 6 long years. Although there is nothing we can do to bring Taelyn back, we were able to obtain justice for her. I pray that this last verdict will start to bring closure to Taelyn's family." The case was prosecuted by Prosecuting Attorney Eric M. Hoffman and Chief Deputy Prosecutor Zachary Q. Craig, assisted by Prosecutor's Investigators Heather Stanley and Cassie Benbow as well as ISP Detective Ron Halbert.

###

STATE OF INDIANA )  
DELAWARE COUNTY )

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURT SYSTEM  
2017 TERM  
DELAWARE CO. INDIANA

JUN 01 2017

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW Eric Perkins, a Police Officer of the

Indiana State Police Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon his/her oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested without warrant based upon the charges, facts and circumstances herein after stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

NAME OF PERSON ARRESTED: Nathaniel L. Jordan DOB: 05/26/1990

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 7489 W. CR 500 North Farmland, IN 47340

DATE OF ARREST: 05/28/2017 TIME OF ARREST: 7:43PM

CHARGES: Neg. of Dep. Causing Death A LEVEL 1  FELONY  MISDEMEANOR  
Criminal Recklessness A LEVEL 5  FELONY  MISDEMEANOR  
Domestic Battery w/ Child Present A LEVEL 6  FELONY  MISDEMEANOR  
\_\_\_\_\_ A LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_  FELONY  MISDEMEANOR  
\_\_\_\_\_ A LEVEL \_\_\_\_\_  FELONY  MISDEMEANOR

The basis and reasons why this Officer believes that said Arrestee committed the aforesaid offense(s) in Delaware County, State of Indiana are as follows:

On 05/28/2017 at approximately 4:35pm, Troopers responded to the area of US 35 and Meeker Ave. in reference to a personal injury crash. While enroute, dispatch advised units that a child had possibly been ejected. Upon arrival, it was determined that a minor child (identified as Taelyn A. Woodson, DOB: 09/10/2010) was deceased. During the course of the investigation it was determined that Mr. Jordan had punched the female driver identified as Jessica M. Skeens, DOB: 04/10/1989) in the right cheek multiple times causing swelling and

Date: 05/28/2017 Officer Signature: [Signature] 1752 ISP

JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

The undersigned, being a Judicial Officer of Delaware County, and having reviewed the foregoing affidavit, now determines that probable cause existed for the arrest of said arrestee, and now fixes bond in the penal sum of \$ 60,000.00 cash bond or surety bond.

DATED: 5/30/2017 SIGNED: [Signature]

CHARGES TO BE FILED BY: June 5, 2017

Bond \$ 60k  
cash or surety

STATE OF INDIANA )  
 )  
DELAWARE COUNTY )

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURT SYSTEM  
2017 TERM

FILED  
CLERK'S OFFICE  
DELAWARE CO. INDIANA

JUN 01 2017

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

PAGE 2

*Michael B*  
CLERK

bruising to the right side of her face. After being punched in the face, Ms. Skeens lost control of her vehicle and went off the southside of the road, causing the vehicle to roll.

At the time of the crash, there were three other children in the vehicle (Maybri E. Skeens, DOB: 01/18/2012 Hunter J. Skeens, DOB: 09/18/2013 and Ezekiel L. Jordan, DOB: 06/30/2015) who suffered minor injuries and were transported to IU Ball Memorial Hospital for minor injuries. Of the four children requiring car seats, only the male juveniles were properly restrained, and the females were in seatbelts only.

While speaking to both Mr. Jordan and Ms. Skeens, Officers detected a strong odor of alcoholic beverage on their breath. Both subjects were transported to IU Ball Memorial Hospital at which time blood samples were obtained. Those samples were submitted to the Dept. of Toxicology for analysis.

Numerous bottles of full and empty alcoholic beverages were inside and outside of the vehicle as well as a pill container with green plant-like material.

Date: 05/28/2017

Officer Signature: *E. P. R* 1756 15P