



# HARRISON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

TROY J. PETERSON  
SHERIFF

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***  
**For Immediate Release**

On Tuesday, December 11, 2018, Sheriff Troy Peterson announced the arrest of 27 year old Thomas Cannette and 27 year old Candance Lopresto whom both reside at 16206 Lamey Bridge Road in Biloxi, MS on three counts of Felony Child Neglect.

According to Sheriff Troy Peterson, on Monday, December 3, 2018, Harrison County Sheriff's Investigators and Deputies responded to 16206 Lamey Bridge Road in Biloxi regarding a one year old child who was reported to be unresponsive. Upon arrival, American Medical Response transported the child to Merritt Health where the child was pronounced deceased. The investigation revealed that the child was unsupervised for an extended period of time and was eventually located behind a sofa in the home by Cannette and Lopresto. Investigators and Deputies noticed the residence was in deplorable conditions and notified Department of Human Services since there were two other children in the residence. Investigators also noticed obvious signs of abuse and neglect on the other two children. DHS took custody of the children and transported them to a local hospital for treatment. Investigators arrested Cannette and Lopresto after discovering drug paraphernalia in the residence after a search warrant was conducted. Deputies transported Cannette and Lopresto to the Harrison County Adult Detention Center and booked them in on the misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia charges pending the medical examines on the children.

On Thursday, December 6, 2018, Investigators were informed by DHS that the other two children where scene by a Doctor. DHS concluded that both children had injuries that was the result of abuse.

On Friday, December 7, 2018, Investigators were notified by the State Medical Examiner's Office in Jackson, MS that there where obvious signs of abuse during the autopsy that was conducted on the deceased child and the cause of death was ruled as asphyxiation as the child became trapped behind the sofa. Investigators obtained warrants for three counts of Felony Child Abuse on Cannette and Lopresto and served the warrants on them at the Harrison County Adult Detention Center where they were still being held on the misdemeanor charges.

Cannette and Lopresto were booked on the additional charges of three counts each of Felony Child Abuse. Cannette and Lopresto are being held in lieu of a \$750,000.00 dollar bond each set by Justice Court Judge Brandon Ladner.

Investigative Officer: \_\_\_\_\_

Arresting Officer(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Approved For Release: \_\_\_\_\_

Troy J. Peterson, Sheriff, Harrison County, Mississippi