



OFFICE OF
STATE ATTORNEY
FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

October 25, 2013

PRESS RELEASE

William Eddins, State Attorney for the First Judicial Circuit, announced today that the State will seek the Death Penalty in the case against William Alan Thomason. Thomason was indicted for First Degree Felony Murder for the death of his daughter, 8 week old Braelyn Thomason, by an Okaloosa County Grand Jury on October 3, 2013.

The allegations supporting the indictment arose on the afternoon of September 13, 2013 when Thomason was left home alone with Braelyn while her mother went to run errands. Witnesses have said that Braelyn was acting normally at the time she was left alone with Thomason. Upon returning home, Braelyn's mother found Braelyn with her eyes rolled back in her head, moaning and unresponsive. Thomason claimed she was just sleeping hard. EMS responded to the scene and rushed Braelyn to Fort Walton Beach Medical Center. She was later flown to Sacred Heart Hospital for treatment. Braelyn died 3 days later, on September 16, 2013, as a result of her injuries which included 2 broken femurs, a broken clavicle, broken ribs, bilateral retinal hemorrhages, and massive bleeding on the brain. Doctors have said that Braelyn would have been immediately symptomatic upon receiving the injuries to her head. Thomason has admitted to being the only person alone with Braelyn between 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on the afternoon of September 13, 2013.

Thomason is currently incarcerated in the Okaloosa County Jail with no bond.

Assistant State Attorneys Angela Mason and Jonathan Schlechter will be prosecuting the case. If you have any additional questions, please contact them at (850) 651-7260.