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NEWS RELEASE

HPD Makes Arrest in Deaths of Toddlers

HINESVILLE, Ga. (October 14, 2019) – On Monday, October 14, the Hinesville Police Department (HPD) made an arrest in the case of Payton and Raelynn Keyes.

On September 29, Raelynn and Payton Keyes, two juvenile female twins (age 3), were located deceased in a vehicle on the 200 block of Augusta Way in Hinesville, Ga. Investigators from the Hinesville Police Department and the Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI) responded to the incident location and began a death investigation. The children were in the care of a foster parent, Claudette Foster, at the time of their passing.

The next morning (Monday, September 30) an autopsy was conducted at the GBI Crime Lab located in Pooler, Ga. Preliminary results indicated the children's death was caused by accidental heatstroke.

As a result of the investigation, warrants for two counts of Murder in the 2nd degree and two counts of Cruelty towards a Child in the 2nd degree were obtained for Ms. Foster's arrest. Ms. Foster's attorney was contacted and she turned herself into the Hinesville Police Department on October 14th, 2019 at 9 a.m. without incident. Ms. Foster is currently housed at the Liberty County Jail pending her first appearance hearing.

For more information regarding this case, please contact the Hinesville Police Department at 912.368.8211 or City of Hinesville Public Relations Manager, Whitney Morris-Reed, at wmorrisreed@cityofhinesville.org or 912.408.3569.

ABOUT THE CITY OF HINESVILLE:

The [City of Hinesville](http://www.cityofhinesville.org) was established in 1837 and is recognized as one of the fastest growing cities in the State of Georgia in both size and population. As the largest city in Liberty County, it serves as the county seat and is home to more than 35,000 people. For more information, visit [cityofhinesville.org](http://www.cityofhinesville.org).

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