



Parents arrested after police find baby dead, kids with bugs crawling out of ears

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PHOENIX — A 1-month-old is dead and four other children are now in the state's care as their parents are in jail on charges of child abuse.

Court documents paint a grim picture of what life was like for the five children.

Police said they got a call Jan. 5 from the Phoenix Inn near Interstate 17 and Northern Avenue.

Investigators found a 1-month-old boy dead in the room.

Police interviewed the baby's parents, Donald Roy Ferguson and Emmaline Amelia Ramierez, who told them the baby was having trouble breathing and was choking earlier that evening.

Instead of calling 911, police say the parents went on with their night until the boy became unresponsive.

Documents say Ferguson went outside to call his employer while Ramirez performed CPR and called for help, but it was too late.


The other children living in the home were found in terrible shape.


The children, ages 6 and younger, were found wearing soiled diapers and covered in dirt. Documents say they were infected with lice and had insects crawling out of their ears.


After pronouncing the baby dead, first responders found a second 1-month-old baby with breathing problems. Doctors later found that child had traumatic brain injuries.


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