



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ANDERSON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

SHERIFF PAUL N. WHITE

August 7, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Two Arrests In Child Abuse Case

Two persons were arrested today, Saturday, August 7, after indictments for multiple counts of aggravated child abuse were returned by an Anderson County Grand Jury. Upon receiving the indictments, sheriff's deputies went to the residence of **Tobias Mark Pethtel**, 44, and **Kathleen Elaine Pethtel**, 45, on Oliver Springs Highway in the Marlow community. Neither were home. A family friend was there and investigators believe she called the **Pethtels** to inform that deputies were looking for them. Investigators briefly spoke by cell phone with one of the **Pethtels** who hung up and later refused to answer. Messages left to call investigators also went unanswered. A search for the **Pethtels** began and a regional bulletin was sent out to law enforcement agencies.

At about 3:30am, a suspicious vehicle was seen by the Oliver Springs Police parked at the Raceway Market on Tri-County Blvd. Upon checking, Oliver Springs officers learned the occupants of the car were the wanted fugitives. The **Pethtels** were held until sheriff's deputies arrived to take them into custody. Deputies arrested both without incident and transported them to the Anderson County Detention Facility. The **Pethtels** are each being held under \$75,000.00 bond on six counts of Aggravated Child Abuse.



Tobias Mark Pethtel
W/M 09/28/1965 (44)
Oliver Springs Hwy
Clinton, TN

Aggravated Child Abuse (6 counts)

Bond = \$75,000.00



Kathleen Elaine Pethtel
W/F 03/14/1965 (45)
Oliver Springs Hwy
Clinton, TN

Aggravated Child Abuse (6 counts)

Bond = \$75,000.00

The indictments came after an investigation into allegations of child abuse on their six minor children by the Sheriff's Criminal Investigations Unit, the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, and the Clinch Valley Children's Center.

As these charges involve minor children and are pending criminal cases, no additional details can be released.

Sheriff Paul White

ANDERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
101 SOUTH MAIN STREET SUITE 400
CLINTON, TENNESSEE 37716

E-MAIL: SHERIFF@TNACSO.NET

• [WEB: WWW.TNACSO.NET](http://WWW.TNACSO.NET)

OFFICE: 865-457-6210
FAX: 865-457-6243