



SHREVEPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4/11/25

Mother Arrested After Children Found Locked on Apartment Balcony



On April 10, 2025, at approximately 7:00 p.m., Shreveport Police officers were dispatched to the 3500 block of Milan Street at the Villa de Lago Apartments following a report of two young children found unattended and locked on a second-floor balcony.

A concerned neighbor noticed the children and immediately notified the apartment manager's office. The manager then contacted the Shreveport Police Department. Upon arrival, officers discovered a three-year-old and a five-year-old locked outside on the balcony without supervision.

Officers were able to make contact with the children's mother, identified as Jessica Ogula, who arrived at the scene shortly thereafter. Ogula initially claimed she had left the children in the care of a babysitter; however, further investigation revealed this to be false. It was later determined that she had left the children alone on the balcony while she went to work—a practice she had allegedly done on multiple occasions.

According to the officers' report, the children were barefoot, dressed in soiled clothing, and had a strong odor of urine. Ogula was arrested and charged with two counts of child desertion. The children were released into the care of a responsible adult.

This case is heartbreaking. While we at SPD understand that parents sometimes face incredibly difficult circumstances, the safety and well-being of children must always come first.

The investigation is ongoing.