



Sharen Wilson Criminal District Attorney



For Immediate Release

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Mother sentenced to 12 years in prison for trying to suffocate her baby

(Fort Worth, TX) - Shawna Renae Bieber has been sentenced by Judge George Gallagher to 12 years in prison after pleading guilty to a second-degree felony charge of attempted injury to a child with serious bodily injury.

Bieber was arrested in 2019 after cameras at Cook Children's Medical Center captured her twice squeezing her 7-month-old daughter so tight that she was deprived of oxygen.

Gallagher, of the 396th District Court, sentenced Bieber Thursday afternoon at the end of a two-hour hearing.

"Any time you suffocate a baby, you deserve to go to prison," said Katie Owens, an assistant criminal district attorney in the Tarrant County Criminal District Attorney's Special Victims Unit. "Justice was served for Lonna, who is happy and healthy now.

"We are grateful to the Sheriff's Department for conducting a thorough investigation."

This is the latest alleged local case of what is commonly called Munchausen by proxy, a disorder in which a person exaggerates or creates medical symptoms to another person to gain attention.

Bieber has signed over her parental rights to the child.

