



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Rep. Born, Sen. Jagler Respond to Charges Filed in Baby Theresa Case

Legislators thank law enforcement, propose increasing penalty for crime

Beaver Dam, WI – Today, law enforcement announced a break in the case of Baby Theresa. The case was initiated in 2009 when a local resident found the body of a baby girl in a garbage bag, which the community then named “Baby Theresa” to give her an identity as law enforcement searched for answers. Following the announcement of charges in the case, State Representative Mark Born and Senator John Jagler made the following statement:

“For nearly 13 years, this community has been mourning the loss of Baby Theresa, and hoping for answers to her tragic death and improper abandonment. Today, we have those answers. But as we have learned, the gravity of this crime is not reflected in the statutory penalty, which is far weaker than similar crimes. We appreciate District Attorney Kurt Klomberg for bringing this discrepancy to our attention.

“That is why we are introducing legislation that will bring the consequence for this crime in line with the seriousness of it. The bill we are introducing will increase the penalty for concealing or not reporting the death of a child to a Class F Felony, which is the same penalty as hiding a corpse.

“We want to thank the incredible detectives who have worked tirelessly on this case, which has captivated the hearts of residents of this community and throughout Wisconsin. We appreciate their diligence in bringing justice for Baby Theresa and closure for our community that has been waiting for over a decade for a resolution to this case.”

On April 29, 2009, a newborn baby girl was found deceased in a garbage bag in the woods in the Town of Theresa. A Jane Doe warrant was issued for the crime of hiding a corpse to prevent the statute of limitation from expiring. Through expert investigation and ceaseless searching, local law enforcement was able to find the parents of Baby Theresa and have announced charges against the mother.

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