



**WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

*Sheriff Fred Newman*

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR RELEASE: February 22, 2012**

**For More Information:**

**Sheriff Fred Newman  
Washington County, Virginia Sheriff's Office  
20281 Rustic Lane  
Abingdon, VA 24210**

**A Washington County, VA, resident has been charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder as the result of the death of a six-month-old male infant. According to Washington County Sheriff Fred Newman, on November 7, 2011, at approximately 9:00am, a call came into Washington County Virginia Central Dispatch in reference to an unresponsive infant at a residence at 16045 Mendota Road, Mendota, VA.**

**Members of the Washington County Life Saving Crew, along with Sheriff's Office personnel, responded to the residence. Life-saving measures were attempted but unsuccessful, and the infant was pronounced dead at Johnston Memorial Hospital.**

**Detectives from the Sheriff's Office began an investigation with the victim's body being sent to the State Medical Examiner's Office in Roanoke for autopsy. The autopsy revealed the infant died of massive head trauma. "The results of the autopsy were not consistent with statements taken during the interviews and the manner of death has been listed as a homicide," stated Sheriff Newman.**

**Ira Joe Green, age 20, of 16045 Mendota Road, Mendota, VA, has been arrested and charged with 2<sup>nd</sup> degree murder in the death of the infant. "It has been**

**established that the infant was in the care of the accused when the death occurred,” said the Sheriff.**

**Green is being held without bond in the Abingdon Facility of the Southwest Virginia Regional Jail. An arraignment date is scheduled for February 23, 2012, at 9 am in the Washington County Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.**

**Sheriff’s Detectives Scott Clear and Billy Nichols are conducting the investigation into the case. Second degree murder is punishable by not less than five years nor more than forty years in the state penitentiary.**

