



# Ukiah Police Department

Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

**Justin Wyatt**  
Chief of Police

## Press Release

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### UPD Case #19-1224: Arrest made in child abuse investigation.

**Date:** 05/07/2019

**Time of call:** 1:26 PM

**Crimes:** See below

**Location:** Residence on S. State St.

#### **Suspect Arrested: Audrey Joyce Hernandez (74-year-old female)**

On 05/07/2019, the Ukiah Police Department began investigating a report of suspected child abuse after a female juvenile was found to have several significant and suspicious injuries to her body which were reportedly the result of child abuse. It was quickly determined that Audrey Joyce Hernandez, age 74, was the guardian of 5 children ranging in ages from 4 to 15 years old. All of the children were detained by CPS while UPD Detective's investigated this case.

During the investigation, several search warrants were executed and evidence of suspected child abuse was discovered.

A warrant was obtained and on 05/23/2019, Hernandez was subsequently placed under arrest. Hernandez was booked and lodged at the Mendocino County Jail in lieu of \$65,000 bail for the following charges:

273d(a) PC- Inflict corporal injury to a child – Felony  
273a(b) PC- Child abuse – Misdemeanor (4 counts)

At this time, the Ukiah Police Department is asking anybody who may have further information regarding this case to please contact the Ukiah Police Department at 707-463-6262.

The Ukiah Police Department would also like to thank the allied agencies who assisted in this investigation including Mendocino County Child Protective Services and the Mendocino County District Attorney's Investigations Unit.

Written by: Detective T. Kiely

Detective T. Kiely #D19

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### **Audrey Joyce Hernandez**

Detective T. Kiely #D19

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