



**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Mom who Left Baby in Car during Snowstorm Gets Reduced Sentence**

Adams County District Judge Thomas Ensor on Thursday ordered that the 8-year sentence he imposed on Nicole Carmon for leaving her 2-year-old son in a car overnight during a snowstorm be reduced to 5 years.

Ensor's order came over the objections of the District Attorney's Office and was in response to a motion for reconsideration of sentence filed by the defense.

Carmon (DOB 12/29/89) was sentenced Jan. 4 to 8 years in prison for negligent child abuse causing serious bodily injury and attempted first degree assault.

Thornton police found Carmon's son strapped to a car seat in her vehicle in a parking lot at 901 E. 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue on December 17, 2016. Multiple Thornton police officers were dispatched to search for the vehicle after Carmon reported that she had left her son in her vehicle overnight during the snowstorm but did not know where. Carmon has a history of DUIs and had been drinking heavily before she "lost" her son in the snowstorm. The boy was rushed to the hospital for treatment of frostbite and hypothermia. The successful search by Thornton police was credited for saving the boy's life.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Patrick Freeman told the court that little has changed since Carmon was sentenced six months ago. He noted that she now appears to take a bit more responsibility for her actions but she still maintains that her difficult life and circumstances led to an addiction that hurt her son. He said the longstanding pattern of neglect she showed with her children demonstrates her character. Although Carmon now is sober, that is because she is incarcerated, Freeman said, and whether she has overcome her addiction is unknown. "The defendant is the only person who is to blame for the injuries to her son and the actions that led to this situation must come with real consequences," Freeman said in his response to the defense motion.

When he sentenced Carmon in January, Ensor called her actions "atrocious" and "jaw-dropping" and said, "What she did was something I wouldn't do with my dog."

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