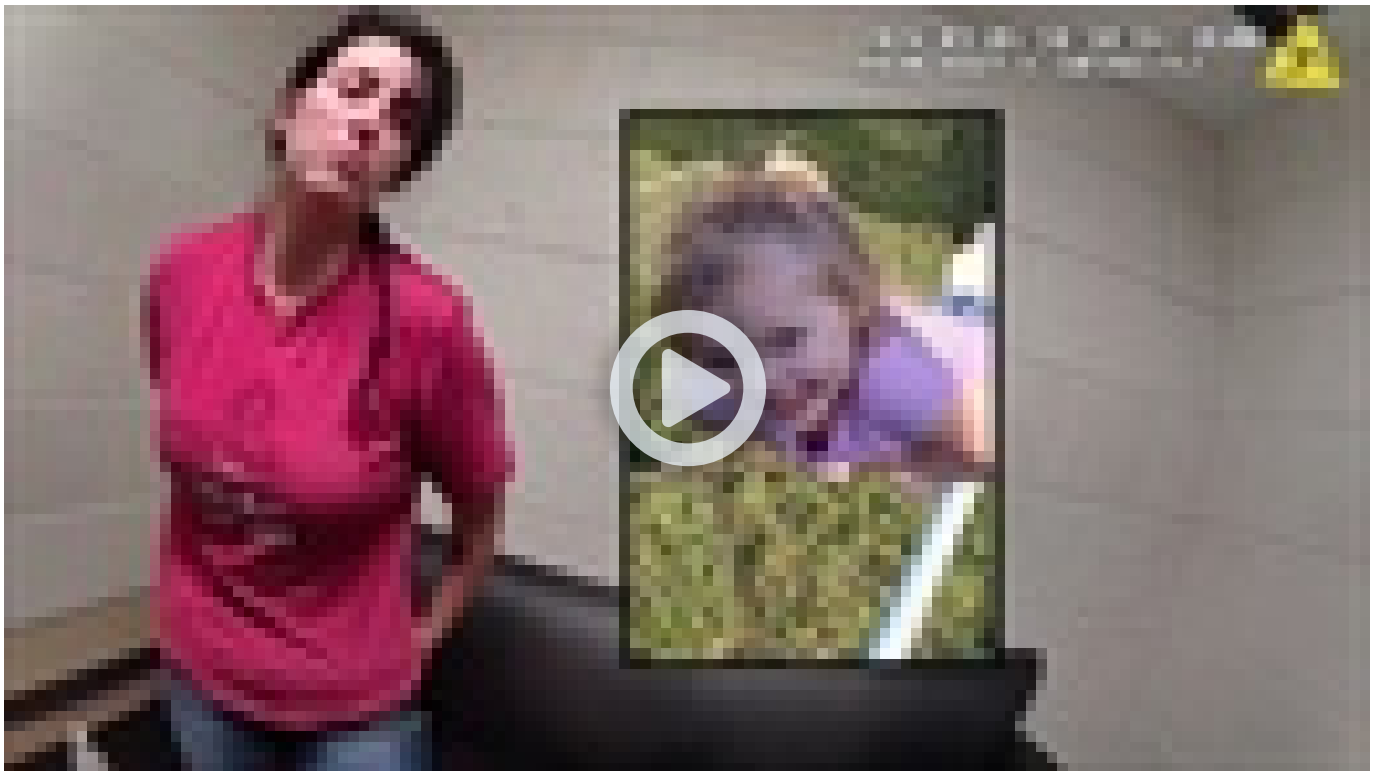


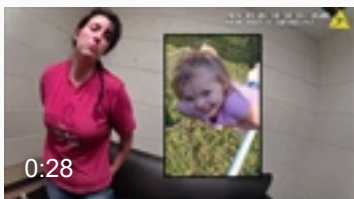
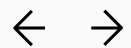
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'Citra house of horror': 3-year-old dies from child abuse; Marion County deputies arrest suspect



3-year-old killed in Citra



Marion County mother faces upgraded charges in death of 3-year-old girl



Mother held on no bond on child neglect charges in connection to 3-year-old's death in Citra



Mother of 3-year-old Paisley Brown arrested on child neglect charges

By [Ryan Wyatt Turbeville](#), [WCJB Staff](#) and [Kayla Lewis](#)

Published: Feb. 21, 2026 at 12:12 AM GMT+9 | Updated: Feb. 21, 2026 at 6:54 AM GMT+9



CITRA, Fla. (WCJB) - Sheriff's deputies arrested a man for abusing a 3-year-old girl, [resulting in her death](#) in Marion County on Thursday.

Marion County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jeroen Jarrel Coombs, 32, on the charge of aggravated child abuse. They say additional charges are forthcoming.

Deputies responded to a home on Northeast 44th Avenue in Citra around noon. They found Paisley Brown, 3, unresponsive. Paisley was taken to the hospital, where she died.



32-year-old Jeroen Jarrel Coombs (DOB: 09/27/1993) was charged with Aggravated Child Abuse after he struck 3-year-old victim Paisley Brown multiple times, resulting in her death. (MCSO)

Investigators say Coombs, Paisley's mother's boyfriend, was home alone with multiple children on Thursday morning. A child witness told investigators he heard Coombs strike Paisley.

At about 11 a.m., he told Paisley's mother that the girl was unresponsive. A 911 call wasn't made for 40 minutes.

When speaking with detectives, Coombs initially claimed Paisley was groggy when she woke up

that morning. Detectives confronted him about the bruising and binding marks on the girl, and he admitted to causing her death.

He told investigators that he bound her hands with a rope and her legs with tape. He claimed he dropped her on the floor and admitted to hitting her multiple times.

Coombs said he "took it too far." He also said he was too scared to call 911.

"Any feelings that he has, to be honest with you, we don't care. We're going to go after justice, whatever that path is," said Lt. Paul Bloom, a spokesperson for the Marion County Sheriff's Office.



Paisley Brown, 3, died in a home in Citra as a result of child abuse, Marion County deputies say (Tabitha Harless)

Tabitha Harless, Paisley's great aunt, described the girl as joyful and energetic. According to the arrest report, she arrived at the home before emergency crews and immediately attempted CPR on Paisley.

"He said he hurt her," Harless said. "He killed her, and I looked at him as passing in the hallway, and I said a few choice words to him, and I said you killed her, and I told paramedics, as they were still performing CPR, I said he killed her."

Detectives will work with the Fifth Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office to bring additional charges following the Medical Examiner's report.

"This is a Citra house of horror here," Harless said while explaining how Coombs would tie the children up with tape, rope, and handcuffs at night.

Sheriff's deputies say they are investigating whether Paisley or other children were previously abused. They are also working to understand what the mother knew about the alleged abuse and the delayed 911 call.

The other four children living in the home were turned over to the Department of Children and Families.

Arrest Report Timeline

- **9:15 a.m.** The child's mother left the home to go to the DMV and then a nail appointment. She said the children were all sleeping.
- **10:29 a.m.** The mother spoke to Coombs on the phone and said she should hear Paisley's voice.
- **10:49 a.m.** She sent Coombs a photo of her nails, and he didn't respond to her text.
- **10:58 a.m.** She videochatted with Coombs, and she saw Paisley pale and limp. She then finished getting her nails done and headed home. She alleged she told Coombs to call 911.
- **11:38 a.m.** The first call was placed to 911 dispatch after the mother arrived at the home.

[SCRIBD]

			
Arrest Affidavit			
MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 692 NW 30TH AVE OCALA, FL 34475			
Report Date / Time 2/19/2026 02:02 PM	Report Number MCS055ARR311755	Case Number/Cad Number MCS026OFF004196 / 2602190355	Reporting Officer Name SANTANA-PALAU, K
Originating Agency OADR FL0420000	Occur Date / Time Range 02/19/2026 11:38:00 - 02/20/2026 06:00:00	ORIS Number	Clearance
Location of Occurrence			
County MARION	Location Type RESIDENCE	Location Description	

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