

Bortner to receive sentence today

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Democrat Staff Writer

DOVER — The mother of a murdered 21-month-old girl is scheduled to be sentenced today for failing to protect the toddler from the abuse that claimed her life.

Amanda Bortner, 20, was convicted in November on two misdemeanor counts of endangering the welfare of a child in connection with her daughter Kassidy's death in 2000.

The sentencing is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. in Strafford County Superior Court.

Bortner's live-in boyfriend, 31-year-old Chad Evans, was convicted in December 2001 of second-degree murder and multiple counts of assault.

Bortner was free on bail pending her sentencing until state prosecutors learned she and Evans had been engaging in telephone conversations — a violation of his sentence and her bail conditions.

Assistant Attorney General David Ruoff filed a motion last month to revoke Bortner's bail and it was subsequently granted by Judge Tina L. Nadeau. Bortner was incarcerated at the Strafford County House of Corrections on Dec. 23.

Kassidy was pronounced dead at York Hospital in York, Maine, on Nov. 9, 2000. Maine Chief Medical Examiner Margaret Greenwald later listed the cause of Kassidy's death as blunt-force injuries to the head and abdomen. During Evans' murder trial, she said Kassidy suffered from ongoing child abuse.

The child endangerment convictions against Bortner state that she failed to protect Kassidy from Evans' abuse in the weeks and hours prior to her death, and did not seek medical treatment for the toddler's many injuries.

Under New Hampshire law, the maximum sentence Bortner could receive is one year on each of the two child endangerment convictions.

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