

Nursing home employee accused of battering resident

(KAIR)--An employee of an Atchison nursing home is facing a felony charge in connection with the alleged battery of an elderly resident.

Atchison Police Chief Mike Wilson told MSC News his department launched an investigation after concerns were reported.

The investigation led to Thursday night's arrest of 38-year-old Tammy Puckett as she arrived for work at Medicalodge of Atchison. "We conducted an investigation on Thursday focusing on an incident that occurred recently, involving an 80-year-old male victim. That incident involved a physical battery that occurred against the victim at a local nursing home where the victim resided.

The 38-year-old suspect was taken into custody around 10 p.m. Thursday night as she arrived there for work."

Puckett, identified as a resident of Leavenworth, now faces a charge of mistreatment of a dependent adult. "In many cases, this would constitute a battery, but because of the circumstances involved here, and the age of the victim, Kansas law constitutes this [as a] charge [of] mistreatment of a dependent adult, which is a felony," Wilson said.

Following her arrest, Puckett was booked into the Atchison County Jail.

Wilson says the victim did not require medical treatment as a result of the battery.

An email to Medicalodge from MSC News seeking details of Puckett's employment wasn't immediately answered.

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