

Girls ages 2 and 5 left in car while dad in Sands casino, police say

 dailynewsen.com/breaking/girls-ages-2-and-5-left-in-car-while-dad-in-sands-casino-police-say-h2593712.html

The two-year-old and five-year-old girls left by their father Saturday in a locked car or truck in the Sands casino parking garage are now in the custody of Northampton County Division of Youngsters, Youth and Families.

Bethlehem police had currently announced that the girls' father, Vaylon Wong, 47, of Brooklyn, New York, was charged with endangering the welfare of youngsters.

Today, police released extra particulars about the incident in the Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem parking garage.

Sands Safety patrolling the garage spotted the two girls at ten:24 p.m. alone in the car, Bethlehem police report. Pennsylvania State Police patrol the casino floor but city police handle incidents outside of the South Bethlehem facility.

While police investigated, a number of loud speaker announcements have been produced inside the casino and no one responded. About 11:05 p.m., authorities identified Wong, who said he owned the Lexus and left the young children alone, police stated.

Wong denied the children were his and mentioned he was just watching his neighbor's kids, police stated. The girls have the similar last name as Wong.

"When the two kids saw Wong, they referred to him as 'daddy,'" Bethlehem police Chief Mark DiLuzio said in a news release.

Wong then allegedly became uncooperative and refused to inform police exactly where the girls' mother was and what her name is.

Casino safety cared for the kids till county child welfare officials arrived.

The casino and Bethlehem police pledged to continue to respond to and investigate all calls about youngsters being left in any vehicle on the casino complicated, police said.

"There is no safe and acceptable cause, in today's world, to leave modest young children unattended in any locked automobile, at any time, at any place," DiLuzio said in the news release.

The incident is still below investigation by police and county kid welfare officials.

Wong was arraigned early Sunday on two counts of endangering the welfare of children and two counts of recklessly endangering a further particular person. He was sent to Northampton County Prison in lieu of \$20,000 bail.

Now, Cindy Khuu posted \$20,000 money bail for Wong, court records indicate.

Northampton County District Attorney John Morganelli in November 2011 vowed to prosecute to the fullest extent of the law situations of adults abandoning young children at the Sands, which opened in Might 2009.

In August of this year, Maurice Cook, of the 600 block of Wolfe Avenue in Easton, was spotted on casino surveillance playing blackjack when his children, ages 1, five and eight, sat in his car or truck in the parking garage, according to police. Cook told police he is addicted to gambling and he was sorry for what he had

performed, police stated.

He faces 3 counts of recklessly endangering a different particular person and endangering the welfare of youngsters. Cook remains in jail just after failing to post \$30,000 bail.

In July 2012, Yulissa Troncoso, of Allentown, left her 5 kids -- ages 10 months to 12 years -- alone for an hour in her SUV so she could play the slots at the Sands. In that case, a Sands security guard noticed the young children unattended. County Judge Michael Koury in June 2013 sentenced the now-35-year-old to two months to two years in county prison. She was paroled in August 2013, court records show.

The mall adjacent to the casino is property to the 16,000-square-foot New Horizon Youngsters Quest and Cyber Quest, exactly where for \$ten youngsters ages 6 months to 12 years can be left and watched by employees as late as 1 a.m. in the Youngsters Quest area.

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