

San Tan Valley mom arrested for smoking marijuana with kids

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SAN TAN VALLEY, Ariz. - Pinal County Sheriff's Office announced that Jillian Hughes, 34, of San Tan Valley was arrested for smoking marijuana with her children and other minors.

According to a media release, allegations were brought to law enforcement by staff at a San Tan Valley elementary school after it was brought to their attention.

Sheriff's deputies confirmed that four of the five identified victims were Hughes' children.

"This case should be shocking to the community for the blatant disregard this mother had for her children's well-being," Sheriff Paul Babeu said. "This woman was supposed to be protecting her kids from the dangers of drugs, but instead, provided her own kids and their friends with drugs and allegedly used drugs with her kids."

An investigation by Pinal County Sheriff's Office began May 5.

Department of Child Services and a state investigator contributed in the investigation.

Marijuana was found in the master bedroom and bedroom of the 16-year-old child as well.

Hughes said she did not know where her 11 and 12-year-old children were at the time police searched the residence, but deputies searching the house found both the 11 and 12-year-old sleeping in a hall closet.

Based on the findings at the home, DCS took custody of all four children.

According to authorities, once the interviews were completed on May 19, deputies went to arrest Jillian Hughes.

Sheriff Babeu continued, "Jillian was interviewed while in custody and told our detectives she knew all her children smoked marijuana, but stopped short of saying that she furnished them marijuana. She is facing five counts of child abuse and five counts of furnishing drugs to minors, as well as possession of marijuana and paraphernalia."