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—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—  
**CHAMBLEE POLICE REUNITE CHILD AND MOTHER IN ABDUCTION CASE**  
*Suspects Charged With Multiple Offenses*

**August 31, 2020**—In a little less than five hours, Chamblee Police Department, along with Georgia State Patrol, found Mateo Alejandro Montufar-Barrera unharmed in Carrollton, Ga. The toddler had been reported missing in Chamblee at about 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 29.

The suspects, Maynor Dario Valera Zuniga (male) and Kristin Nicole Valera-Zuniga (Nash, female) are currently in custody in the DeKalb County jail. After further investigative interviews, investigators determined the suspects' motive was the desire for a male child. Charges for Mr. Zuniga include: Kidnapping, Aggravated Assault, Theft by Taking (Tag), Interference with child custody, Traffic Offenses (concerning the tag) and Damage to property 2nd Degree (Stroller). Charges for Ms. Valera-Zuniga include: Kidnapping, Interference with child custody and Criminal attempt to commit aggravated assault.

Chamblee Police Department Officers responded to 8 Clairview Drive on a child abduction call Saturday, August 29 at 12:30 p.m. Leslie Barrera, the victim and child's mother, was walking to her apartment with one-year-old Mateo in the stroller. The suspects approached her and the male displayed a handgun and suddenly grabbed the baby. The mother fought with him but despite her determined and courageous resistance they fled in their vehicle with her child. The suspects were stopped in the red 2003 Acura MDX at around 5:00 p.m.

This positive outcome would not have been possible without assistance of the professional and dedicated staff of the Chamblee Police Department, and the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Georgia State Patrol, DeKalb County Police Department, Carroll County Sheriff's Office, Carrollton Police Department and Brookhaven Police Department. The collaboration of these agencies was invaluable in bringing baby Mateo home safely and quickly.

For more information on the City of Chamblee or the Chamblee Police Department, call 770-986-5010.

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Located just 14 miles from downtown Atlanta, Chamblee is a vibrant urban city with a diverse community and international flair. The City of Chamblee began as a small rail town and was incorporated in 1908. It has grown to more than seven square miles and nearly 30,000 residents. Chamblee is home to a heavy rail MARTA station, a historic downtown and Antique Row, the vibrant Buford Highway corridor, DeKalb-Peachtree Airport (PDK), the Centers for Disease Control and a thriving business community with a unique sense of entrepreneurship and optimism. Visit [www.chambleega.gov](http://www.chambleega.gov) for more information.