

Police search for - Rocky Mount Telegram (NC) - May 21, 2004

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Authorities are looking for a woman who disappeared in January from her friend's house in Spring Hope, leaving behind four children, including an infant, Rocky Mount **police** said.

Deborah Elaine Deans, 29, was last seen in January, leaving the house she shared with her friend after the two argued. Kimberly Hancock told authorities that Deans called someone to pick her up, and she left the residence a little while later. Hancock couldn't describe the person or the vehicle.

Deans left behind an infant and a 5-year-old at Hancock's house, as well as two older children who are apparently living with their grandmother, a **police** spokesman said. The two younger children now are in foster care.

Hancock told investigators that Deans called on March 24, asking permission to pick up the two youngest children, he added. But Hancock refused, telling Deans that she needed to talk to the Department of Social Services.

Deans never showed up at Hancock's house and hasn't called again, **police** said.

Deans' mother reported her **missing** on April 19.

Deans stands about 5-foot-5 and weighs approximately 170 pounds. She has brown hair, blue eyes and two tattoos - one on her lower left leg of two hearts and another on her left shoulder of a rose.

Anyone with information about Deans' whereabouts can call Rocky Mount **police** Detective Barbara Wright at 972-1454 or the Twin County Crime Stoppers at 977-1111.