

Child Fatality Summary C-19 2022

Child's Name: Elijah Fields

County: St. Lucie

Date of Birth: 12/04/2017

Date of Death: 01/22/2022

Family Composition Chart

Report Number: 2022-023240

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Elijah Fields	4 years	Decedent
Shaina Small	32 years	Mother
Gabriel Fields	28 years	Father

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On January 25, 2022, a report was received by the Hotline stating that three days earlier, on January 22, 2022, the mother had shot and killed the child and then herself. The father was alarmed when he was unable to enter the hotel room where the family had been staying and contacted 911. Law enforcement entered the room and found the mother and child laying on the bed with blood-stained clothes and bedding. Upon their arrival, St. Lucie County Fire Rescue saw no signs of life and pronounced them deceased on the scene, at 12:45 pm.

Just prior to the incident, the mother requested that the father go to the hotel lobby area and bring back breakfast for herself and the child. The father went downstairs and breakfast hours were over, so he returned back upstairs. The father attempted to get back into his hotel room, but the door was locked and barricaded, and the mother wasn't answering. The father contacted 911 at this time to assist him with entering the room.

Dr. Patricia Ann Aronica of the Circuit 19 Office of the Medical Examiner's completed an autopsy. The cause of death was determined to be "multiple gunshot wounds" and the manner as an "homicide."

The Port St. Lucie Police Department has jurisdiction over this case. The lead Detective hasn't yet closed his investigation, but states he will be closing it as a suicide and there are no criminal findings as the shooter is deceased.

Based on the information indicated above, the report was closed with "verified" findings for the death, internal injuries, physical injury, and inadequate supervision maltreatments.

Other Children in the Family

There are no other children in the home.

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

No prior reports were located on the child or the mother. The father was listed as a child in three special condition referrals between 2004 to 2006. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tausha Schreiber
Tausha Schreiber, Child Fatality Prevention Specialist

April 6, 2022
Date

Michelle Windfelder
Michelle Windfelder, Region Program Manager

04/11/2022
Date