

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Brad Thorne, Jr.

County: Pasco

Date of Birth: 9/13/2012

Date of Death: 6/23/2022

Report Number: 2022-192232

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Brad Thorne, Jr.	9 years	Deceased Child
Brad Thorne	32 years	Father
Stephanie Davis	31 years	Mother

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On June 23, 2022, an investigation was received concerning the death of this 9-year-old child after he was found unresponsive in his home. At the time of the incident, the household consisted of the child and his parents.

According to the father, he made breakfast then the parents went to sell scrap metal on the morning of June 23, 2022, leaving the child at home playing video games. When they returned, the father took the mother to work, then he and his son spent time together. At some point the child went to the bathroom and the father began preparing lunch. He noticed that his son was in the bathroom longer than normal, and went to check on him, discovering his son unresponsive on the toilet. The father then called 911 and began performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation until first responders arrived. Paramedics transported the child to the local hospital; however, he was unable to be revived and he was pronounced deceased a short time after arrival.

The family would not allow the Child Protective Investigator to gain access to the home. However, law enforcement described the home as unclean and having a foul odor. An injured duck was observed in the family's living room, along with animal feces on the floor. A "glass bulb styled pipe," which appeared to be used for smoking marijuana was found in the kitchen, an open prescription pill bottle was found on the floor in one of the bedrooms, and drug paraphernalia was found in the bathroom and the garage.

Dr. S. Ignacio with the District Six (Pinellas and Pasco Counties) Medical Examiner's Office conducted an autopsy on the child. The cause of death is listed as Fentanyl Toxicity and the manner of death as an accident.

The Pasco County Sheriff's Office conducted the criminal investigation concerning the death. During a search of the home law enforcement located drug paraphernalia, to include a clear plastic baggie and several small straws, near the toilet where the child was discovered unresponsive. Items recovered from the bathroom were later tested and the results were positive for trace amounts of Fentanyl. Additional testing showed both the father and the child's DNA on the straws. The father was subsequently arrested on manslaughter charges.

Based on the interviews and evidence gathered during the investigation, it is believed that both parents were aware of the conditions of the home and had direct knowledge that substances were present. Therefore, the Pasco County Sheriff's Office Child Protective Investigations Division closed their investigation with the following findings:


Child	Identified Maltreatment	Findings	Caregiver Responsible
Brad Thorne, Jr.	Death	Verified	Mother/Father
	Environmental Hazards	Verified	Mother/Father
	Substance Misuse – Illicit Drugs	Verified	Father
	Substance Misuse – Illicit Drugs	Not Substantiated	N/A

Other Children in the Family

The parents have no other children.

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

There are three prior reports involving the family unit. Their history includes allegations surrounding the parents' using marijuana, marijuana being assessable to the child, and supervision related concerns; however, the parents were often uncooperative during those investigations, and they were all closed with no findings of any maltreatments.



 Mechell Young-Williams
 Child Fatality Prevention Specialist
 SunCoast Region

2/6/2024

 Date



 Robert Wilson
 Operations & Management Consultant Manager
 SunCoast Region

02-06-2024

 Date