

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Khalani Carver

County: Hillsborough

Date of Birth: 8/3/2020

Date of Death: 8/1/2022

Report Number: 2022-229799

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Khalani Carver	1 year	Deceased Child
██████████	5 years	Sibling
██████████████████	7 years	Half-Sibling by mother
██████████	11 years	Half-Sibling by mother
██████████	15 years	Half-Sibling by mother
Destiny Carver	31 years	Mother
Terrin Smith	28 years	Mother's Paramour

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On August 1, 2022, an investigation was received regarding the death of 1-year-old Khalani Carver, after she was found unresponsive in the home. The toddler resided with her four older siblings, their mother, and the mother's paramour.

According to the family, the mother went to work around 6:45 a.m. on the morning of August 1st, leaving the five children in the care of her paramour. Per the paramour, he tended to the toddler throughout the day and at some point, she took a nap. Around 2:30 p.m. one of the children checked on the toddler and discovered that she was not breathing. The older children brought the toddler to the paramour and alerted him to the toddler's condition, while another child ran to a neighbor's home for assistance. The neighbor responded to the home, called 911, and assisted with cardiopulmonary resuscitation until first responders arrived on scene. Paramedics arrived a short time later and transported the toddler to St. Joseph's Hospital, where medical professionals determined that the child suffered from nonaccidental injuries. She was unable to recover from her injuries and she was subsequently pronounced deceased.

Presumptive drug screens were conducted on the mother and her paramour. The mother's urine sample tested negative for any substance and the paramour's results were positive for marijuana and negative for any other substances.

Dr. R. McCormick with the Hillsborough County Medical Examiner’s Office conducted the autopsy on the toddler. The cause of death is listed as blunt impact to abdomen with laceration of liver, retroperitoneal hemorrhage and hemoperitoneum, and the manner of death is listed as homicide.

The Tampa Police Department conducted the criminal investigation regarding the incident and Mr. Smith was identified as the individual responsible for the toddler’s injuries and subsequent death. He was located in Tennessee in late August 2022, and he was arrested on a charge of first-degree murder pertaining to the toddler’s death. Of note, at the time of his arrest, he had an outstanding warrant for aggravated child abuse involving another child/family and he was subsequently extradited to Texas to await trial on that charge. The criminal judicial case concerning the toddler’s death is ongoing at the time of this report writing.

Based on the interviews and evidence gathered during the course of the investigation, the Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office Child Protective Investigations Division closed their investigation with the following findings:

Child	Identified Maltreatment	Finding	Caregiver Responsible
Khalani Carver	Death	Verified	Paramour
	Physical Injury	Verified	Paramour
	Inadequate Supervision	No Indicators	N/A
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Other Children in the Family

The Child Protection Team examined the siblings and there were no findings of abuse or neglect regarding any of the male siblings. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The family lived in Indiana until mid-2021 when they relocated to Florida. Approximately one week after the toddler’s death the mother and surviving siblings relocated back to Indiana, where they moved in with their maternal grandmother for support.

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

The paramour has no child welfare history.

The family’s child welfare history involves one prior report within the state of Florida, and that investigation was received in 2021 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

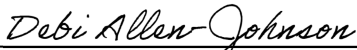
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9/19/2023

Date



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Date