

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Niko Robinson

County: Hernando

Date of Birth: 08/22/2022

Date of Death: 11/01/2022

Report Number: 2022-331834

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Niko Robinson	2 months old	Child Victim
[REDACTED]	21 months old	Sibling
Emerald Halcomb	24 years old	Mother
Jiddes Robinson, Jr	33 years old	Father

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On November 1, 2022, the 2-month-old infant passed away from apparent physical injuries incurred on October 29, 2022.

According to the hospital and law enforcement, the following information was provided.

The hospital staff told the child protective investigator that the original story from the parents was that on the evening of October 28, 2022, the mother fed the infant and then left to go get pizza, leaving the father home with the children. When the mother returned, the infant was choking, gargling and then went unconscious. The parents drove the infant to Oak Hill Hospital. While en route they saw law enforcement, stopped, spoke to them, and were escorted the remainder of the way to the hospital. The infant was then transferred to John Hopkins All Children's Hospital in Tampa at 2:00 a.m. on October 29, 2022.

A CT was completed on the infant and noted an overall impression of concerns for sequela of nonaccidental trauma along with a brain bleed, and fractured ribs with some at different stages of healing. The infant was seen by the Child Protection Team at All Children's Hospital on October 30, 2022, and they had positive findings for physical abuse due to chronic acute brain bleeds that had been happening over time.

On November 1, 2022, Niko Robinson was pronounced deceased at 4:27 p.m.

The father consented to a drug screen and tested positive for benzodiazepines, THC, and fentanyl. The mother consented to a drug screen and tested negative, but admitted to smoking marijuana.

The Hernando County Sheriff's Office investigated the death of Niko Robinson (2022-3196). On February 23, 2023, Emerald Halcomb was arrested and charged with Cruelty Toward Child Aggravated Child Abuse. On February 23, 2023, Jiddes Robinson, Jr. was arrested and charged with Cruelty Toward Child Aggravated Child Abuse, Possess Cocaine, and Smuggle Contraband, Introduce Into Detention Facility. At investigative closure the parents remained incarcerated.

The autopsy report was received on February 22, 2023, and indicated District 5 Medical Examiner Barbara C. Wolf, M.D., completed an autopsy of Niko Robinson on November 2, 2022. ME# 22-2614.

Cause of Death: Multiple Blunt Force Injuries

Manner of Death: Homicide

Autopsy Findings:

1. Blunt head trauma
 - a. Cerebral edema with diastasis of skull sutures
 - b. Subdural and multifocal subarachnoid hemorrhages
 - c. Retinal and optic nerve sheath hemorrhages
2. Rib fractures of varying ages
3. Pulmonary contusions
4. Laceration of small intestine with hemoperitoneum
5. Small patent foramen ovale

On March 21, 2023, the Department of Children and Families' investigation was closed with:

- Verified Findings of Death, Physical Injury, Internal Injuries, Bone Fracture, and Inadequate Supervision as to Niko Robinson, with Emerald Halcomb and Jiddes Robinson, Jr. as the caregivers responsible.
- Verified Findings of Substance Misuse - Illicit Drugs as to Niko Robinson and [REDACTED], with Jiddes Robinson as the caregiver responsible.
- Not Substantiated Findings of Environmental Hazards as to Niko Robinson and [REDACTED]

Other Children in the Family:

The sibling was sheltered on November 2, 2022, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Summary of Current Agency Involvement with Family

The family did not have any open services.


Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

The family has two prior abuse reports in 2021 and 2022. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Central Region Child Fatality Prevention Specialist
Kirby Morgan

3/31/23
Date



Central Region Director of Child Protection
Stephanie Weis

3/31/23
Date