

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Jo'siyah Rancher

County: Miami-Dade

Date of Birth: 05/09/2017

Date of Death: 11/12/2022

Report Number: 2022-348251

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Jo'siyah Rancher	5	Decedent
██████████████████	4	Sibling
██████████████████	9	Sibling
Rashad Rancher	41	Father
Skylar Rancher	33	Mother

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On 11/12/2022, the Department received an abuse report following the passing of Jo'siyah Rancher. The report alleges the following: "On 11/12/22, Josiyah passed away at home. The three children were playing in a room when Josiyah got on top of a dresser and it fell on top of him. The father was not in the room when it happened. Afterwards, the father gave the child Tylenol and made him go to sleep. The father did not call an ambulance until after the child had passed away. The child was taken to Homestead Hospital."

The abuse report lists maltreatments of death and medical neglect with Jo'siyah Rancher as the alleged victim and Rashad Rancher as the alleged perpetrator.

Jo'siyah Rancher was born to parents Skylar and Rashad Rancher in Georgia.

The Child Protective Investigator spoke with the subjects of the report, the Child Protection Team, law enforcement and other collateral contacts. The father reported that on the day of the incident, the children were supposed to be cleaning up. One of his daughters came and told him that the dresser had fallen on the decedent. He went into the room and saw that the youngest sibling was jumping on the dresser with the decedent underneath. The father didn't think anything of it because he stated that the child was "tough". He gave the child something for nausea and melatonin to help him sleep. He checked on him frequently and the final time he checked on the child he was on the floor. The father started CPR and called for the oldest sibling to get the phone to dial 911. The child was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

Both parents reported that the child has a history of seizures.

The siblings were seen at the Child Protection Team. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The father tested positive for alcohol and THC.

The Miami Dade Police Department concluded their investigation with an arrest of the father. He was charged with 2nd degree murder.

The Miami-Dade Medical Examiner completed an autopsy. The cause of death is listed as child abuse with the manner of death listed as homicide.

The Department concluded its investigation with verified findings of death and medical neglect.

Other Children in the Family

The siblings were deemed unsafe and removed from both parents. They were placed with relatives.

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with family

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A September 2018 investigation was closed with no indicators of inadequate supervision and not substantiated findings of household violence threatens child. The decedent and his siblings were the victims with the mother and father the alleged perpetrator.

A November 2018 investigation was closed with not substantiated findings of environmental hazards. One of the siblings was the victim with the mother as the alleged perpetrator.

A February 2019 investigation was closed with no indicators of household violence threatens child and not substantiated findings of inadequate supervision. The decedent and his siblings were the victims. The father was the alleged perpetrator.

A March 2019 investigation was closed with verified findings of household violence threatens child. The decedent and his siblings with the victims with the mother as the alleged perpetrator.

An August 2019 investigation was closed with no indicators of physical injury. The decedent was the victim. The father was the alleged perpetrator.

A February 2020 investigation was closed with no indicators of substance misuse. One of the siblings was the victim. The alleged perpetrator was unknown.

A November 2020 investigation was closed with no indicators of environmental hazards and not substantiated findings of physical injury. The decedent and his siblings were the victims. The father was the alleged perpetrator.

A January 2022 investigation was closed with not substantiated findings of inadequate supervision and no indicators of household violence threatens child. The decedent and his siblings were the victims with the father as the alleged perpetrator.

A May 2022 investigation was closed with not substantiated findings of family violence threatens child. The decedent and his siblings were the victims. The father was the alleged perpetrator.

Tracey Wadsworth 

Child Fatality Prevention Specialist
Tracey Wadsworth

9/28/2023

Date

Sonia de Escobar

Family Safety Program Manager
Sonia De Escobar

9/29/2023

Date