

Indiana: 2022 Annual Report of Child Abuse & Neglect Fatalities in Indiana

The Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana is the state's official record of child deaths determined by the Indiana Department of Child Services to have been caused by caregiver maltreatment or neglect. The following contains data from Calendar Year 2022.

Victim: 5-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Circumstances: A 5-year-old-boy was found deceased inside a suitcase in a rural wooded area. Several months later, the child was identified, and it was discovered that the child had previously lived with his mother and his mother's friend. The mother's friend stated she entered a room, observed the mother on top of the child with the child face down on a mattress, and the child was unresponsive. The friend said she helped the mother put the child in a suitcase, and then they dumped the suitcase in the woods.