

## Child Fatality Summary

**Child's Name:** Elijah Jackson

**County:** Duval

**Date of Birth:** November 26, 2021

**Date of Death:** April 11, 2023

**Report Number:** 2023-115997

### Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Elijah Jackson	17 months	Deceased Child
[REDACTED]	3	Paramour's Child
Cornelia Roberts	21	Mother
Tracorvis Strickland	29	Paramour

#### 1. Circumstances Surrounding Death

On April 9, 2023, this 17-month-old toddler was admitted to Wolfson Children's Hospital due to being unresponsive while at home with the paramour. Upon arrival, the toddler was in critical condition due to extensive injuries and bleeding in the brain. Injuries included a bruised ear, swollen lip, bruised side, bruised leg, and bruised buttocks. Despite life-saving efforts, the toddler had no brain activity and was removed from life support on April 11, 2023. The toddler was declared deceased at 11:59am.

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office investigated the incident. Law Enforcement (LE) interviewed the mother and the paramour. According to the LE report, the mother stated she had left the toddler in the care of the paramour while she went out with friends. Approximately two hours after leaving the house she received a call from the paramour stating the toddler was vomiting and had stopped breathing. He called her again and told her that EMS had arrived and transported the toddler to the hospital. The mother initially stated that she had observed a bruise on the toddler's forehead and temple and a red mark on his stomach. When she asked the paramour about the marks, he told her that "he was a boy and fell a lot". In a follow-up interview the mother stated that she had witnessed the paramour slam the toddler onto a seat when the toddler was misbehaving but had never seen the paramour hit the toddler.

According to the LE report, the paramour stated he placed the toddler and his son down for a nap in the same room. When the paramour went to check on the children he saw the toddler choking, vomiting and was limp. The paramour called 911 and began cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

Based on LE's investigation, the mother and paramour were arrested. On April 19, 2024, the paramour pled guilty to second degree murder and aggravated child abuse. He was sentenced to life (30 years) in prison. On June 5, 2025, the mother pled guilty to child neglect and was sentenced to five years of probation.

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The Medical Examiner completed an autopsy and determined the cause of death as hypoxic encephalopathy following resuscitation for cardiopulmonary arrest, blunt impact to the head with subdermal hematoma. The manner of death was determined to be a homicide.

The First Coast Child Protective Team (CPT) completed a medical records review and had positive findings of physical abuse for abusive head trauma, fractures, and bruising.

Based on the information obtained during the investigation, DCF Duval County Child Protective Investigations closed the investigation on October 24, 2024, with verified findings of death due to physical injury and internal injuries by the paramour and mother.

### Other Children in the Family

The paramour's child was placed in the care of his mother.

### 2. Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

The mother and child have no history with Department. [REDACTED]

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



**Melissa Stanley, MSMFT, MBA, CPP**  
**Child Fatality Prevention Specialist**

**7/8/25**

**Date**

***Racquel Courts***

**Racquel Courts**  
**NER Program Manager**

**8/15/2025**

**Date**