

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Camilla Devoe

County: Duval

Date of Birth: May 25, 2021

Date of Death: May 5, 2023

Report Number: 2023-149977

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Camilla Devoe	23 months	Deceased Child
Naduania Jones	23	Mother
Charles Francis, Jr.	21	Mother's Paramour

1. Circumstances Surrounding Death

On May 5, 2023, this nearly 2-year-old child succumbed to complications of burns after being admitted to the hospital on September 5, 2022, when the child was 15-months-old (investigation concerning the initial burn incident, 2022-269225). The child was pronounced deceased at 11:21pm.

The mother initially reported that on the day of the incident, she began to put the toddler in the kitchen sink for a bath and ran cold water. She then walked away to grab a towel, diapers and wipes. When she returned, the water was hot, and she took the toddler out of the sink. The mother then drove the toddler to the maternal grandmother's home, approximately 11 minutes away. Emergency Medical Services was contacted, and they transported the infant to UF Health Shands in Gainesville.

When the mother's paramour was interviewed, he reported different circumstances. The paramour stated he was the only one who gave the toddler baths. He reported that he had woken up and noticed the toddler's mouth was hot because she had eaten hot chips and drank hot sauce. The toddler then vomited and when the paramour went to wipe her mouth, he noticed there were no wipes. The paramour sent the mother to the store to purchase wipes and diapers. The paramour then put the toddler in the bathroom sink for a bath. He ran the water and left to get some clothes and a towel and was gone approximately five minutes. When the paramour returned, he noticed that the water was hot and that the toddler's skin was peeling. He took the toddler out and called the mother. When the mother got home, the paramour googled what to do and read that they should put the toddler in cold water. While he put the toddler in cold water, the mother called the grandmother who instructed them to bring the toddler to her home.

The mother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for THC, methamphetamine, amphetamine, and alcohol. The paramour refused to drug screen.

Following the toddler's hospitalization, she was legally sheltered with her placement remaining in the hospital up until her death. [REDACTED]

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office opened an investigation and arrested the mother and paramour for Aggravated Child Abuse and Child Neglect. The mother pled guilty to Child Neglect and was sentenced to four years of probation after serving one year in jail. Following the toddler's death, the paramour's charges were upgraded, and he subsequently pled guilty to Aggravated Manslaughter of a Child and was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

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The Medical Examiner completed an autopsy and determined the cause of death was complications of thermal injuries. The manner of death was homicide.

The First Coast Child Protection Team (CPT) completed a medical records review on August 27, 2023. CPT had positive findings of fatal physical abuse and medical neglect. The report stated the following, in part:

- “1. Fatal physical abuse. Extensive burns caused by immersion into hot water and with hot flowing water on the left side.
 - a. The histories vary significantly as to who and where.
 - b. This pattern would not occur by hot water being introduced to "cold" water, nor would this pattern be seen with rising water. A child of this age would scream from the intense pain and make efforts to escape. Rising water means that burns would be much more extensive at the bottom of the tub/sink than further up the body. This is not seen.
 - c. The flow pattern might be seen from a tap with hot water, or water being poured onto her.
 - d. The pattern with sparing of creases is typical of immersion and being sat down into a tub/sink. This amount of burns is dangerous and can lead to infection and organ failure.
- 2. Medical neglect. The mother should have called 911 right away. Delay can compromise early treatment for a critical condition.
- 3. Medical neglect. The mother failed to tell the correct story of how this occurred to multiple medical professionals. Failure to tell a correct story can negatively alter medical care.”

Based on the information obtained during the investigation, DCF Duval County Child Protective Investigations closed the investigation on March 5, 2024, with verified findings of death due to burns; and verified findings of medical neglect and substance misuse-illicit drugs.

Other Children

The infant had no siblings at the time of death. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2. Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

The mother and toddler had no history of reports prior to the original burn incident. That investigation was closed with verified findings of burns and inadequate supervision, with both the mother and her paramours identified as the caregivers responsible.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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

3/17/2025

Date

Racquel Courts

Racquel Courts
NER Program Manager

4/3/2025

Date