

Mclean Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Margie Mclean

County: Holmes

Date of Birth: 05/31/2021

Date of Death: 05/16/2023

Report Number: 2023-162239

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Margie Mclean	23 months old	Deceased Child
██████████	4 years old	Sibling
Kathreen Adams	23 years old	Mother
Christopher Mclean	32 years old	Father

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On May 16, 2023, an investigation was received regarding the death of this nearly 2-year-old child, who was pronounced deceased after being found unresponsive in a vehicle at her home. The household consisted of the toddler, her older sibling, and the parents.

On May 15th, at approximately 4pm, the father dropped both children off at their grandparents' home while the mother was working. At approximately 10pm when the mother got off of work, the mother and father, in separate vehicles, went to pick the children up from the grandparents' home. At that time, the parents got into the same vehicle and rode around with the children in the car for several hours before returning home. When the family arrived home at around 4 or 5am on May 16th, the toddler was asleep. The parents did not wake the child up to take her inside the home, but decided to leave her in the car asleep. The 4-year-old child was taken inside the home. The parents then fell asleep on the couch, and they did not wake up until approximately 2 or 3pm (a period of between eight and 11 hours). At this time, the 1-year-old child was discovered unresponsive in the vehicle. The mother contacted 911 for assistance. When law enforcement and emergency services arrived at the home, resuscitation efforts were completed, but it was unsuccessful. The toddler was declared deceased at the family's home. The child's body temperature was taken by emergency services, and her temperature at that time was 107 degrees.

On the date of the toddler's death, the home was observed to be in poor condition and determined to be hazardous to both children. There was an infestation of roaches observed throughout the home. Also observed throughout the home was dog and cat feces on the floors with trash, tools, dirty diapers, broken furniture and other items scattered throughout the home. Also found in the home was a back pack that contained clothing, children's toys, a medical syringe, and a white substance that was determined by law enforcement field testing to be methamphetamines. CBD gummies were located in the home along with glass pipes used to smoke methaphetamines and marijuana. A urinalysis was completed on both parents. The mother was positive for methamphetamines, amphetamines, and THC. The father was positive for methaphetamines, amphetamines, THC, and buprenorphine.

An autopsy was completed by Dr. J. Radtke with the District Fourteen Medical Examiner's Office. The cause of death was determined to be Probable Hyperthermia and the manner of death was determined to be an accident.

The Holmes County Sheriff's Department conducted the criminal investigation. On May 16, 2023 both parents were arrested. The father was charged with five counts of possession of a controlled substance, six counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, neglect of child with great bodily harm, and resisting or obstructing without violence. The mother was charged with five counts of possession of a controlled substance, six counts of possession of drug paraphernalia, and neglect of child with great bodily harm. In June 2023, the mother was also charged with aggravated manslaughter of a child. In September 2023, the father was charged with aggravated manslaughter of a child.

Based on interviews and evidence gathered during the course of the investigation, the Child Protective Investigation Unit closed their investigation with the following findings:

Child	Identified Maltreatment	Finding	Caregiver Responsible
Margie Mclean	Death	Verified	Mother and Father
	Environmental Hazards	Verified	Mother and Father
	Inadequate Supervision	Verified	Mother and Father
	Substance Misuse-Illicit Drugs	Verified	Mother and Father
	Household Violence Threatens Child	Verified	Father
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Other Children in the Family

Following the toddler's death, the surviving sibling was seen by the Child Protection Team. [REDACTED]

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

There are three prior reports concerning the family. The first one was received in 2019 concerning both parents and the surviving sibling. [REDACTED]

The next investigation occurred in 2020 [REDACTED]

The last investigation received prior to the death of the toddler was received in 2021. This report concerned allegations of substance exposed newborn for the toddler, with allegations that the umbilical cord tested positive for THC. Upon investigation, it was found that the infant did not have any withdrawal symptoms. There were also no concerns reported by collateral contacts. A referral was completed for the Healthy Start program. The investigation was closed with not substantiated findings of substance exposed newborn.

Jennifer Renfro
Jennifer Renfro
Child Fatality Prevention Specialist

01/30/24
Date

Regina Pleas
Regina Pleas
NWR Family Safety Program Manager

2/5/2023
Date

