

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Messiah Calixte

County: Volusia

Date of Birth: January 10, 2023

Date of Death: November 21, 2023

Report Number: 2023-372108

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Messiah Calixte	10 months	Deceased Child
██████████	4	Half Sibling by Paramour
██████████████████	5	Half Sibling by Mother
Denjah Moore	30	Mother
Charles Ivy	34	Paramour

1. Circumstances Surrounding Death

On November 21, 2023, this 10-month-old infant died as a result of injuries received during a house fire.

On November 21, 2023, the sibling's father entered the home and stabbed the mother while she was sleeping. He then lit all of the burners on the stove, placed paper on top of them, and started a house fire while all of the children were sleeping. He then fled the scene. Law Enforcement, EMS, and the Fire Department arrived and extinguished the fire. They discovered the children had received burns and transported them to Halifax Hospital. They also discovered the mother had been stabbed and she was pronounced dead on scene. Despite life saving efforts, the infant was pronounced deceased at 1:22am.

The mother and the siblings' father had a on again/off again tumultuous relationship. They had an active parenting plan that included an ongoing child support case. The siblings' father was not happy about the child support case, and it is believed he and the mother recently were fighting about it.

The Medical Examiner completed an autopsy on the infant and determined the cause of death as thermal and inhalational injuries. The manner of death was a homicide.

The Medical Examiner completed an autopsy on the mother and determined the cause of death as stabbed by another individual. The manner of death was a homicide.

The Volusia County Sheriff's office opened an investigation and arrested the siblings' father. He was charged with two counts of murder, two felonies for committing an act that could cause death, and first-degree arson of a dwelling while people were present.

Based on the information obtained during the investigation, DCF Volusia County Child Protective Investigations closed the investigation on June 22, 2025, with verified findings of death due to burns with the siblings' father as the caregiver responsible. There were also verified findings of burns against the children by their father.

Other Children in the Family

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The child had two half-siblings at the time of death. Both children sustained burns and smoke inhalation injuries. The children were sheltered and [REDACTED].

2. Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

The family has been involved in seven prior investigations between 2018 and 2023.

In August 2023, an investigation alleging the paramour had punched one of his older children was closed with no indicators of physical injury. No services were provided.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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

8/14/25

Date

Racquel Courts

Racquel Courts
NER Program Manager

8/15/2025

Date