

Indiana: 2023 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.

Victim: 12-year-old girl

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: 1, for the 12-year-old girl

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Circumstances: A 12-year-old girl, 8-year-old girl and 6-year-old boy died from gunshot wounds. They lived with their mother. On the day of the fatalities, the mother shot herself while on a virtual call with the father of two of the children. Law enforcement was contacted, and upon their arrival at the home, they observed the home engulfed in flames. The mother and three children were found deceased in the home from gunshot wounds. It was determined that the mother shot the children, started a fire in the home, and then shot herself.

**Note that sex is reported incorrectly for the other two children vs. what is available through the medical examiner report.*