

## Indiana: 2024 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.

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Victim: 6-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: Ongoing program of Informal Adjustment

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 6-month-old boy died from abusive head trauma. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the incident, the mother was not home, and the father was caring for the child. The father stated the child had been sleeping, and when he checked on him, he found him unresponsive. The child was observed to have bruises on his head and back. The father admitted to hitting the child several days prior because the child would not stop crying. The father stated that on the day of the child's death, he hit the child. The child cried for an hour and then became quiet. Postmortem x-rays showed that the child had a healing wrist fracture.