

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.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

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: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from a gunshot wound. He lived with his mother. On the day of the fatality, the child was visiting his father. The father placed the child in the father's bed to take a nap. The father went downstairs, and approximately ten minutes later, he heard a bang. The father went back upstairs to his bedroom and observed the child with a gunshot wound. The father stated he kept his loaded firearm under the mattress of the bed the child had been lying on. The father stated that when he found the child, the gun was on the floor by the bed.