

## Minnesota Safe Passage for Children Child Fatality Report 2022-2023

**Name of Child Victim:** D-Angelo Pitchford

**County:** Olmsted

**Date of Death:** 2/14/2022

**Date of Birth:** Not stated

**Age:** 3 years M

**Adult Perpetrator:** Father

**Abuse Type:** Neglect

**Summary:** D-Angelo Pitchford's father took him to the doctor on a day when he was not feeling well. When the father got home from work, D-Angelo had a stomach ache and vomited. His father then took him to the Emergency Department at Olmsted Medical Center. After several hours, the father became impatient with the wait and told staff he was going home. Hospital staff explained that D-Angelo's white blood cell count was high and that he could die. They then had Pitchford's father sign paperwork acknowledging that he was taking the child home against medical advice. The boy died shortly after that due to complications of a paraduodenal hernia, a condition that would have been seen on an x-ray and would have required immediate surgery.

Olmsted County opened an investigation following D-Angelo's death and determined that there was no maltreatment on the part of the father, **even though his actions appear to clearly meet the statutory criteria for neglect. The father is currently charged and awaiting trial for manslaughter.**

**Previous History:** No previous history of maltreatment