North Carolina Public Records Act Request

The following information was received in response to a public records request submitted under the North Carolina Public Records Law (G.S. §132-1) by Lives Cut Short. Records were provided by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner on January 27, 2025.

CANDID ID: NC_22_63

Decedent's Name: Amaria Noel

Victim Age: 1 year

Sex: Female

Ethnicity: Not Hispanic or Latino

Race: Black

Date of Death: 04/23/2022

Death County: Nash

Cause of Death: Environmental- Hyperthermia

Manner of Death: Accident

Preliminary Circumstances: On April 23, 2022, 1-year-old Amariah Noel and her 3-month-old brother Kamryn Noel were found unresponsive in the back seat of their mother's car on Drew Street in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. Emergency personnel responded to the scene and transported both children to a local hospital, where resuscitation efforts were unsuccessful. Autopsies revealed that both children died of hyperthermia. Their mother, Zharia Noel, and her boyfriend, Ahmene Butler, allegedly left the children unsupervised in a vehicle with the engine and heater running for several hours. Both adults were indicted by an Edgecombe County grand jury on charges of involuntary manslaughter and felony child abuse. Court records note that the children were found with burns and bruising on their bodies.