

Pennsylvania: 2022 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

1st Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Philadelphia

(#10) A 3-year-old male child died on January 8, 2022, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on February 12, 2022, naming the victim child's mother and mother's paramour as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, the mother's paramour reported the victim child was choking and took the child to a police officer. The child was transported by emergency medical services to the local children's hospital; the child presented with bruises on the neck, forehead, and rib cage, a laceration to the liver, a bruised adrenal gland, blood in the stomach cavity, and hemorrhaging on the spinal cord. The child was pronounced dead at the hospital. It was determined through the investigation that the injuries sustained were indicative of abuse and the mother and mother's paramour were the sole caregivers. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed in foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, no criminal charges had been filed. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.