

Pennsylvania: 2023 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

1st Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Lancaster

(#5) A 12-year-old female child died on February 10, 2023, as a result of physical and sexual abuse. Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Services Agency indicated the report on March 30, 2023, naming the victim child's mother's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, the victim child was reported to be missing and that the mother's paramour sexually assaulted the child. Emergency services searched the home and found the child deceased in the basement freezer. The death was ruled a homicide by strangulation. It was determined through the investigation that the mother's paramour confessed to killing and raping the child. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the two other children in the home at the time of the incident remained in the home and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated the mother's paramour had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.