

Pennsylvania: 2023 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

1st Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Philadelphia

1. (#7) A 2-year-old female child died on February 4, 2023, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on February 26, 2023, naming the victim child's legal guardian's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child was found unresponsive and emergency medical services were contacted. The child presented to the hospital with extensive bruising covering the body. The injuries sustained were indicative of abuse and appeared to be from the child being kicked or punched. The child subsequently died as a result of the injuries sustained. The autopsy revealed the child died as a result of blunt impact injuries of the torso and the manner of death was homicide. It was determined through the investigation, that the legal guardian's paramour was the sole caregiver of the child when the injuries were sustained. There were no other children in the home at the time of the incident and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the legal guardian's paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.