

Pennsylvania: 2022 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

2nd Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Bucks

(#1) A 3-month-old male child died on January 7, 2022, as a result of serious physical neglect. The Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth, and Families' Southeast Regional Office indicated the report on April 21, 2022, naming the victim child's mother, father, and maternal grandmother as the perpetrators. On the date of the incident, emergency services responded to a call that the victim child was in cardiac arrest. The child was transported to the hospital and pronounced dead. Illegal substances and drug paraphernalia were found in the room when emergency services responded to the home. An autopsy revealed the cause of death was ingestion of an illegal substance. It was determined through the investigation that the maternal grandmother violated a safety plan in place which required visits with the child's mother and father to be supervised; the mother and the father were left unsupervised with the child in their home with an illegal substances and drug paraphernalia present. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident was placed in kinship foster care and services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the criminal investigation was pending. The family was previously known to child welfare.