

Pennsylvania: 2023 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

2nd Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Philadelphia

(#14) A 3-year-old female child died on February 17, 2023, as a result of physical abuse. Philadelphia Department of Human Services indicated the report on April 17, 2023, naming the victim child's babysitter as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child was found in the bathtub not breathing and emergency medical services were contacted. The child presented to the hospital with scratches and bites on the nose, cheeks, and eyelids, bleeding behind the ears, a blown pupil, burn marks from a cigarette on the abdomen and left thigh, bruising on the thighs and back, and a laceration and bleeding from the rectum. The child died as a result of the injuries sustained. An autopsy revealed the death was ruled a homicide. It was determined through the investigation that the babysitter was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the incident and caused the injuries sustained by the child. As the result of the safety assessment completed the one other child in the home at the time of the incident remained in the home with the mother and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated the babysitter had been criminally charged. The family had no prior documented child welfare involvement.