

Pennsylvania: 2022 Quarterly Summaries of Child Fatalities and Near Fatalities

3rd Quarter Summaries of Child Fatalities/Near Fatalities

Bedford

(#2) A 3-year-old male child died on May 29, 2022, as a result of physical abuse. Bedford County Children and Youth Services indicated the report on July 11, 2022, naming the victim child's father's paramour as the perpetrator. On the date of the incident, it was reported the victim child was found by the father's paramour cold, blue, not breathing, and with baby wipes in the child's mouth. Emergency medical services were contacted. The child was transported to the hospital by emergency medical services and arrived at the hospital with petechia on the throat, scratches, and no pulse but was resuscitated and put on a ventilator. The child was life flighted to the local children's hospital and subsequently died. An autopsy revealed the child died as the result of manual strangulation due to baby wipes being placed in the mouth and contusions to the neck, face, and chest. It was determined through the investigation that the father's paramour was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of incident. As the result of the safety assessment completed, the one other child in the home at the time of the incident remained in the care of the father and no services were provided. At the time the report was indicated, the father's paramour had been criminally charged. The family was previously known to child welfare.