

Indiana: 2024 Annual Report of Child Abuse & Neglect Fatalities in Indiana

The Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana is the state's official record of child deaths determined by the Indiana Department of Child Services to have been caused by caregiver maltreatment or neglect.

Victim: 10-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: Ongoing CHINS case; child in foster care

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 5

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Foster mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 10-year-old boy died from asphyxia. He lived with his foster parents and foster siblings. On the day of the incident, the child became angry and fled from the home. The foster mother found the child, and upon returning home, the child refused to get out of the vehicle. The foster mother stated that she opened the child's car door at which time the child tumbled to the ground, or she tackled him. The foster mother stated that she got on top of the child to prevent him from running away as the child kicked her. Video surveillance of the incident was observed, and the foster mother was seen lying on top of the child, on the front lawn, for at least 20 minutes; approximately 10 minutes of which the child did not move or make a sound. The foster mother eventually realized the child was unresponsive, and 911 was contacted. The child never regained consciousness and died two days later.