

Indiana: 2022 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: 5-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Perpetrator: Babysitter

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Circumstances: A 5-month-old boy died from a head injury. He lived with his parents and grandmother. On the day of the fatality, the child was being cared for by a babysitter. During the day, the babysitter provided pictures of the child to the parents, showing the child to be alert and in good health. Later that afternoon, the babysitter said the child vomited and then gasped for air. The babysitter called 911, and the child was unresponsive when first responders arrived. The babysitter tested positive for unprescribed Suboxone. The child was found to have several head injuries, including retinal hemorrhages.