Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Dominic Pelfrey
Damian Pelrey

County: Lake

Date of Birth: 12/03/2019
04/03/2018

Date of Death: 04/16/2022
04/16/2022

Report Number: 2022-117298

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Dominic Pelfrey	2 years old	Child Victim
Damian Pelfrey	4 years old	Child Victim
[redacted]	1 year old	Sibling
David Pelfrey	20 years old	Father
Justyce Lavrey	21 years old	Father's Paramour

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On April 16, 2022, the 2-year-old and 4-year-old children were pronounced deceased after being unrestrained in a car accident with their father. The 1-year-old sibling survived and was transported to the hospital. The father and his paramour also survived the accident.

According to the family, the following information was provided.

On April 16, 2022, the father and his paramour were camping at Wekiva Falls with the children and members of the extended paternal family. There was alcohol intoxication involved. A paternal uncle became aggressive towards several individuals at the campground, including the father's paramour, the father and uncle got into an altercation, and the family was told to leave the campground.

The father, paramour, and children got into their vehicle to drive to a new swimming area in Ocala, with the father driving. During the drive, the father attempted to pass a vehicle in a no passing zone and their vehicle was involved in a head-on collision. Per the Florida Highway Patrol, the father was at fault for the accident. Neither the father nor any of the passengers were restrained. One child was ejected, and a second child partially ejected from the vehicle. Both children were pronounced deceased on scene. The surviving sibling was air-flighted to Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital, where he was diagnosed with a depressed skull fracture, contusions, and minor injuries over his body.

On April 16, 2022, Dominic Pelfrey was pronounced deceased at 6:00 p.m.

On April 16, 2022, Damian Pelfrey was pronounced deceased at 6:00 p.m.

The father and his paramour were transported by ambulance to Central Florida Regional Medical Center arriving at 7:18 p.m. The paramour had an open leg fracture and pelvic fracture. The father had an aortic tear, pelvic fracture, and leg fracture. Per hospital staff, the father's alcohol level at 8:00 p.m. was 0.135, which would have given him an approximated blood alcohol level of 0.165 to 0.18 at the time of the accident. The father and paramour tested positive for THC on April 16, 2022.

The Florida Highway Patrol investigated the deaths of Dominic and Damian Pelfrey (FHP220N0190712). Per the Florida Highway Patrol Traffic Accident Report: *"04/16/2022 615pm - Collision - V1 (Pelfrey) was traveling west on SR 46, V2 traveling East. V1 attempted to pass a vehicle in a no pass zone, V2 swerved to the right off road to avoid collision with V1 who swerved left off road. Front of V1 collided with front left of V2. V1 spun counterclockwise before stopping. V2 spun clockwise and rolled on the left side before catching fire. Dominic Pelfrey pronounced deceased on scene. Damien Pelfrey pronounced deceased on scene."*

The autopsy report was received on June 10, 2022, and indicated District 5 Medical Examiner Tracey S. Corey, M.D., completed an autopsy of Dominic Pelfrey on April 17, 2022. ME# 22-05-00927.

Cause of Death: Death in this 2-year-old little boy, Dominic Pelfrey, is due to Multiple Injuries Sustained in a Motor Vehicle Collision

Manner of Death: Accident

The autopsy report was received on June 10, 2022, and indicated District 5 Medical Examiner Tracey S. Corey, M.D., completed an autopsy of Damian Pelfrey on April 17, 2022. ME# 22-05-00926.

Cause of Death: Death in this 4-year-old little boy, Damian Pelfrey, is due to Multiple Injuries Sustained in a Motor Vehicle Collision

Manner of Death: Accident

On June 15, 2022, the Department of Children and Families' investigation was closed with:

- Verified Findings of Death, Inadequate Supervision, and Substance Misuse - Alcohol as to Dominic Pelfrey and Damian Pelfrey, with David Pelfrey as the identified caregiver responsible.

- [redacted].

Other Children in the Family:

Grief counseling information was provided to the family.

[redacted].

[redacted].

Summary of Current Agency Involvement with Family

The family did not have any open services.

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

[redacted].



Central Region Child Fatality Prevention Specialist
Kirby Morgan

6/21/2022
Date



Central Region Director of Child Protection
Stephanie Weis

06/21/2022
Date