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: 8-year-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: Father, Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Circumstances: An 8-year-old boy died from a gunshot wound. He lived with his parents and sibling. On the day of the fatality, he was left alone at home. When the parents and sibling returned, they found the child dead from a gunshot to the head. The child obtained a 9mm semi-automatic firearm from the parents' bedroom and apparently shot himself by accident. Several firearms were kept in the home with no safety precautions in place.