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-month-old girl

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

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 10-month-old girl died from fentanyl intoxication. She lived with her mother, siblings and mother's friend. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated she placed the child to sleep, and an hour later, she found the child unresponsive. The mother stated she contacted the child's father. He contacted his friend and asked the friend to take the child to the hospital. The mother stated the father's friend arrived at her house and took the child to the hospital. The mother stated she had been the only caregiver of the child. Law enforcement executed a search warrant at the mother's home and several narcotics, consisting of 321 tablets of fentanyl, heroin and bromazolam, were located along with marijuana and several firearms. The child passed away two days later. At autopsy, the child's toxicology was positive for fentanyl, norfentanyl and 4-ANPP.