Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Residential Child Care Licensing

Person ID: 103486637

County of Child's Residence: FORT BEND

Gender: Male

Age: 1 Year(s) 1 Month(s)

Date of Death: 02/17/2022

On the date of the fatality, the child was in DFPS conservatorship. At that time, the child was residing in a Child Placing Agency Foster Home or Foster Group Home.

Child's Name: Burnett,Kyrie J

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 2/8/2021, 2/9/2021

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received two reports stating that the 1 month-old deceased child was taken to the hospital by his mother and father because he was not acting right. He had started having rhythmic jerking and the deceased child's parents became concerned. At the hospital, the deceased child's father admitted that he had fallen while carrying the child and they both hit a chair. The deceased child had two bruises to his head, was also lethargic and not responding normally. CT scan was completed, and the deceased child had a brain injury which would have to be caused by a substantial hit to the head.

During the investigation the Department determined that the deceased child's father was the sole caretaker the day the child was injured. The deceased child's father said he had fallen with the child, but did not believe the child was injured. The deceased child's mother returned home in the evening, and although she noticed there was something wrong with the child, they waited several hours to obtain medical care so they could attend another event. The deceased child's father was aware of what he did to the child, yet he did not seek care and instructed the mother not to seek care for the child right away. The deceased child's mother was aware the child did not seem to be acting normal as well as had an injury, yet she did not seek timely medical care. It was also determined the deceased child's mother was aware the deceased child's father had untreated mental health issues, had no patience with the child when he cried, and the father had a history of violence but she still allowed him to be the sole caregiver for the child.

The deceased child's father admitted to becoming upset with the child, and to violently shaking and throwing the child into his crib. It was also found that he had shaken and thrown the child previously. Medical exams showed the child had multiple injuries, broken bones in various stages of healing, a skull fracture, and bruises.

The Department took custody of the child on 2/9/2021. The deceased child remained at the hospital for almost two months prior to placement in a licensed foster home where he remained until he succumbed to the injuries sustained and passed on 2/17/2022.

Law enforcement conducted an investigation at the time of the initial injuries' and the deceased child's father was arrested.

The Medical Examiner completed an autopsy. Final results indicated Cause of Death: Multiple blunt force trauma Due to: Child Abuse Manner of Death: Homicide.

Investigation Findings:

The deceased child's father was confirmed to have committed physical abuse of the deceased child, which led to the child's death.

The deceased child's mother and father were confirmed to have committed the medical neglect of the deceased child.

The deceased child's mother was confirmed to have committed neglectful supervision of the near fatal child.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 02/09/2021: Safety Assessment - Initial: Unsafe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Case Action:

Removal/Subcare

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation

Other Services:

The Department provided services to the mother which she acceptted.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The Department took custody of the child and provided services to him and his mother. The deceased child's father was incarcerated for the injuries to the child and did not work any services. The deceased child's mother completed all of her services, but was not able to independently care for the child on her own due to his medical needs so the child remained in care until he passed on 2/17/2022.

If one or more children were previously removed from the home, for each conservatorship episode, summarize dates of conservatorship and type of placement at the end of conservatorship:

Other Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s):

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

Investigation Findings:

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Note: This report was prepared on 04/05/2023 and does not include corrections or updates, if any, that may be subsequently made to DFPS data on or after the date this report was prepared.