Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 106715088

County of Child's Residence: DENTON

Gender: Female

Age: 1 Year(s) 3 Month(s)

Date of Death: 01/22/2022

On the date of the fatality, the child was not in DFPS conservatorship and was living with the child's parent, a managing conservator, a legal guardian or other person entititled to the child's possession.

Child's Name: Thomas,Sadie

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 01/16/2022, 01/16/2022

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received two reports due to concerns the 15 month old child was taken to the hospital because of a near drowning. The deceased child and the deceased child's 11 year old sibling were in the care of the father, and the sibling found the deceased child under the water in the bathtub. The deceased child was transported to the hospital in critical condition.

The Department's investigation determined the child passed away on 1/22/2022. The deceased child was in the care of her father at the time of the incident. The deceased child's father was interviewed by law enforcement and he admitted to being the deceased child's caregiver at the time of the incident. The deceased child's father reported he placed the deceased child in the bathtub and left her alone in the bathtub with the water running. The father left the deceased child alone and went to the kitchen to cook. The father returned to the bathroom 10 to 15 minutes later and found the deceased child floating face down in the water. The father reported that prior to finding the deceased child in the water, the 11 year old sibling came out of the bedroom which has the bathroom where the deceased child was in the bathtub. The father reported he thought the sibling was aware the deceased child was in the bathtub. The sibling was interviewed and had no knowledge of the deceased child being in the bathtub until the father found the deceased child unresponsive in the bathtub.

The medical examiner conducted an autopsy and the child's cause of death was determined to be drowning and the manner of death was determined to be accident.

A final law enforcement investigation was pending at the time the Department's investigation closed.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed that the deceased child's father committed Neglectful Supervision of the deceased child which led to her death. The father was the child's caregiver and left her alone in a bathtub with the water running.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
Safety Assessments:
1.) 01/16/2022: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High
Case Action:
Close

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 01/16/2022: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation,Parent/Caregiver Training

Other Services:

No additional services provided- Services accepted

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

No additional action was taken.

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 05/05/2023 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.