Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 107751051

County of Child's Residence: MIDLAND

Gender: Female

Age: 0 Year(s) 1 Month(s)

Date of Death: 05/11/2022

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: Royal,Diamond M

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 5/9/2022, 5/11/2022

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received two reports and these two reports were merged into a single investigation. The deceased child's father physically assaulted the deceased child's mother and this caused deceased child to be dropped by mother. Domestic violence is ongoing within the residence. On 5/9/2022 the deceased child stopped breathing and turned blue; she was taken to the hospital. The second report on 5/11/2022 indicates that deceased child's mother observed her head to be swelling and she was not eating. Deceased child was taken to the hospital again; this time a brain bleed and lateral skull fractures were identified.

The Department's investigation determined the child was seen at the hospital on 5/9/2022. The ER reported the child was diagnosed as having aspirated formula and was discharged with normal discharge instructions. The nurses had no concerns regarding the parents or concerns of abuse or neglect. On 5/11/2022 the child was admitted to the hospital with acute subdural hematoma and multiple severe fractures of the skull. The child's physician advised that deceased child's injuries were sustained up to six hours prior to deceased child arriving at the hospital.

The deceased child's mother was interviewed. She admitted to multiple incidents of domestic violence between herself and deceased child's father. She also admitted to dropping the deceased child during one such incident. The deceased child's father was interviewed. He denied any incidents of domestic violence, despite being confronted with

evidence of history related to such incidents. The parents confirmed they were the child's only caregivers.

Neighbors confirmed screaming, crying and violence within the residence. None of them reported to the police or Child Protective Services. Family members of the deceased child reported there were serious, ongoing concerns of domestic violence and severe untreated mental health issues being demonstrated on multiple occasions by the deceased child's father.

The deceased child died after having been admitted to the hospital. .

An autopsy was performed by the medical examiner and the preliminary manner of death was homicide and the cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head.

Law Enforcement conducted an investigation. Both the mother and father were arrested and charged with capital murder.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed that the deceased child's mother and father committed physical abuse of the deceased child and this abuse led to the child's death. Deceased child's parents each admitted that they were the only caregivers for the deceased child.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 05/10/2022: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation

Other Services:

After the initial report the Department educated the parents on: Safe Sleep Education and Keeping Your Child Safe Wherever You Go education was provided.

No Service Referrals and deceased child was an only child.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

NA

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:

NA

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 03/03/2023 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.