Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 108494291

County of Child's Residence: JEFFERSON

Gender: Male

Age: 0 Year(s) 6 Month(s)

Date of Death: 10/30/2022

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: Shaw,Ja'Kaide

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 08/13/2022; 10/01/2022

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

On 08/13/2022, the Department received a report a family member brought the deceased child's sibling to the hospital with a black eye, scratches all over this body, arms and face, and his hair is thin and balding. The deceased child's mother did not provide an explanation for the sibling's injuries. Another report was received on 10/01/2022 regarding the deceased child being admitted to hospital for cardiac arrest and severe injuries to the child. The child was sedated and intubated.

The Department's investigation determined the mother gave implausible explanations for the sibling's injuries, blaming both the deceased child's oldest sibling and the injured sibling for the marks and bruises on his body. The deceased child's injuries were indicative of inflicted severe abusive trauma, and the child was on life support until his death on October 30, 2022. Due to the sibling's injuries, the deceased child had a skeletal survey with no concerns approximately one month prior to the Department receiving the second report. The Child Safety and Protection medical team determined the deceased child had an intercranial hemorrhage and traumatic encephalopathy, and severe injury to eyes with retinal hemorrhages, bilateral detached retina and a number of bone fractures throughout his body. It appears the mother delayed timely medical attention for a course of eight days. The mother did not provide any reasonable explanation for the child's injuries.

The coroner completed an autopsy on the deceased child. When the Department's investigation closed the final autopsy had not been received, but the preliminary findings indicate the manner of death is Homicide and the cause of death is Severe Trauma.

Law Enforcement investigated and arrested the mother for two counts of Injury to a Child. When the Department closed their investigation, the mother was still incarcerated.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed allegations the deceased child's mother committed physical abuse of the deceased child which led to the child's death. Forensic medical examination confirmed the child suffered from severe abusive trauma - specifically, subarachnoid and subdural brain hemorrhages, severe bilateral detached retinas and severe retinal hemorrhage, and a number of bone fractures located throughout his body. The child died after being on life support for one month. The mother was the primary caregiver, delayed medical attention for the child and could not provide an explanation for the injuries.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 09/08/2022: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan
2.) 10/12/2022: Safety Assessment - Reassessment: Unsafe
3.) 01/11/2023: Safety Assessment - Case Closure: Unsafe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

Conservatorship stage of service opened

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The deceased child and his 2-year-old sibling were removed and placed in foster care for their safety on 10/12/2022. The deceased child's foster care case closed after his death and the 2-year-old sibling remains in care.

The deceased child's sibling (5-years-old) is currently in the care of his father.

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 10/20/2023 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.