# Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

**Person ID:** 109154079

**County of Child's Residence:** HARRIS

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** 8 Year(s) 9 Month(s)

**Date of Death:** 10/24/2022

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.

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**Child's Name:** Gutierrez,Isaac

**Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:**

**Intake Date(s):** 10/24/2022

**Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:**

The Department received a report notifying it of a fatal event after law enforcement responded to a shooting in the parents' home. The sibling accidentally shot the younger child and the child did not survive. The deceased child's father's firearm was accessible to the three children in the home. The deceased child's sibling reportedly tried to move the father's firearm when it discharged and a bullet struck the youngest child in the home. No arrests had been made.

The Department's investigation determined that the deceased child resided with his mother, father and two older siblings. The three children were not enrolled in school and stayed home alone while the parents were working. The father admitted to having numerous assault rifles, ammunition and a bullet-proof vest that were unsecured along with a sawed-off shotgun. The deceased child's sibling gained access to the unsecured firearm that was left next to the bed. He was playing with the firearm when it discharged and accidentally shot the youngest child in the home. There was no working phone available in the home when the shooting occurred and a neighbor helped contact emergency medical services. The youngest child did not survive the fatal injury and passed away. The surviving siblings disclosed that they often played with the firearms prior to the fatal event. Both parents were aware that the firearms were accessible to the children and failed to take the necessary precautions to secure the firearms and ammunition. The parents and two surviving siblings moved in with a protective relative that was willing to help monitor while the

parents participated in services offered by the Department.

The law enforcement investigation was pending at the time the Department's investigation closed. They referred the case to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

The medical examiner conducted an autopsy and but the final results were not available when the Department completed it's investigation. The preliminary findings indicated that the manner of death as a homicide with a cause of death as trauma/ injury by gunshot.

**Investigation Findings:**

The Department confirmed allegations that the deceased child's mother and father committed Neglectful Supervision of the deceased child, which led to the child's death. The parents left numerous rifles and ammunition accessible to the children resulting in the deceased child being fatally shot by his sibling. They did not take the necessary precautions to properly secure the firearms.

The Department confirmed allegations that the deceased child's mother and father committed Neglectful Supervision of the deceased child's two siblings. The parents failed to properly secure numerous rifles and ammunition, and the firearms were accessible to the siblings when one was used to fatally shoot the deceased child.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
10/25/2022 - Safety Assessment - Initial - Safe with plan.
10/26/2022 - Risk Assessment - Very High.

**Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:**

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 10/25/2022: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

**Case Action:**

Family Preservation

**Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:**

Counseling and Evaluation

**Other Services:**

The parents were referred to and willing to participate in services offered by Family Based Safety Services.

**Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:**

The parents and surviving siblings moved in with another relative that was willing to help monitor and supervise the parents' contact with the children.

**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.