Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 111373698

County of Child's Residence: ARCHER

Gender: Male

Age: 6 Year(s) 3 Month(s)

Date of Death: 07/11/2023

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: Garrett,Kellar

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 07/10/2023

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report a six-year-old Deceased Child had been injured in a automobile accident. Deceased Child's Uncle was driving the vehicle and was intoxicated at the time of the accident. Deceased child subsequently passed away from injuries sustained one day after the report was received.

The Department determined Uncle had been driving a vehicle with Deceased Child, Deceased Child's twelve-year-old brother and Deceased Child's cousin as passengers. Uncle had been drinking and was found with a blood alcohol level of 0.197, more than two times over the legal limit. Additionally, speed was a contributing factor and the accident occurred on road with a very sharp turn. Uncle was driving at speeds of 80-90 miles per hour, in a 25-miles per hour zone, immediately before the accident. He missed the sharp turn, causing the vehicle to roll and Deceased Child to be ejected. All the passengers were injured, but Deceased Child was the only person ejected and the only fatality in the accident.

The medical examiner completed an autopsy, but final results were still pending when the Department's investigation closed. The preliminary results found that Deceased Child sustained blunt force trauma injuries in the accident, which resulted in Deceased Child's death.

Law Enforcement conducted an investigation which resulted in Uncle being arrested for Felony Murder.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the Deceased child's Uncle committed physical abuse of the Deceased Child, which led to the child's death. Uncle drove a vehicle and had an accident in which Deceased Child was physically injured and subsequently died. Uncle was driving under the influence of alcohol and excessively speeding.

The Department confirmed Uncle committed physical abuse of Deceased Child's twelve-year-old brother, due to brother being injured in the accident. Uncle was driving under the influence of alcohol and excessively speeding.

The Department confirmed Uncle neglectfully supervised Deceased Child and Deceased Child's twelve-year-old brother by consuming alcohol while being their caregiver, to the point of intoxication, driving erratically, and not making the children wear a seatbelt.

The Department did not find Deceased Child's Mother neglectfully supervised Deceased Child or Deceased Child's twelve-year-old sibling. Mother was unaware Uncle had been drinking and did not know he was going to drive erratically and not make the children wear seatbelts.

Safety Assessment:
1.) 07/11/2023: Safety Assessment- Initial: Safe
2.) 07/25/2023: Safety Assessment- Reassessment: Safe
3.) 08/31/2023: Safety Assessment- Reassessment: Safe
Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Low

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation,Parent/Caregiver Training

Other Services:

Deceased Child's Mother and Deceased Child's siblings all completed grief related counseling.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Deceased Child's parents are protective and are not allowing Uncle to be a caregiver for the surviving siblings. Uncle's murder charge is pending.

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 06/24/2024 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.