Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 111420859

County of Child's Residence: DALLAS

Gender: Male

Age: 5 Year(s) 3 Month(s)

Date of Death: 07/18/2023

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: Aquino Mejia,Josias D

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 7/16/23

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report after law enforcement officials responded to a 911 call and discovered the deceased child who drowned in a back-yard swimming pool.

The Departments investigation determined the 5-year-old deceased child was diagnosed with down syndrome and had the mental age of a 2-year-old. The child got out of his home through a broken window, fell into his backyard pool, and drowned. The deceased child was found by his family minutes after falling into the pool and he was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased. Law enforcement and the hospital reported no concerns for foul play by the deceased child's parents or home members and there were no injuries indicative of physical abuse found. The deceased child's siblings confirmed the child was able to get out of a broken window that led to the backyard. The deceased child's mother and father did not have any precautionary measures to childproof the home or secure the pool in their backyard. The broken window had only been covered by a piece of cardboard, and the family reported the child attempted to get out of the house through the broken window in the past. The deceased child's mother and fathers expectation of the child given his mental abilities placed him in immediate danger which led to his demise.

The medical examiner completed an autopsy, but final results were still pending when the Department's investigation

closed. The preliminary results found no signs of abuse or neglect.

Law Enforcement conducted an investigation and there were no criminal charges filed.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the mother and father committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child which led to his death. The mother and father did not have any precautionary measures to childproof the home or secure the pool in their backyard.

The Department did not confirm anyone committed physical abuse of the deceased child. Law enforcement and the hospital reported no concerns for foul play by the parents or home members and there were no injuries indicative of physical abuse found.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
07/16/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe
08/14/2023: Safety Assessment - Reassessment: Safe
Final Risk Level: Moderate

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation

Other Services:

The family was provided counseling resources and they accepted.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The family replaced the missing window frame.

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:

None

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.