Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 111573548

County of Child's Residence: DALLAS

Gender: Male

Age: 1 Year(s) 4 Month(s)

Date of Death: 08/08/2023

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: Nelson,Annuaki B

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 8/5/2023, 11/30/2023 - two reports merged into a single investigation

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report with concerns of the deceased child being presented at a local hospital unresponsive with a badly burned face. A second report was received after the deceased child's mother gave birth to the child's youngest sibling as mother was pregnant at the time of the child's death.

The Departments investigation found the deceased child was burned while in the care of his father. The deceased child's mother was at work when the burn occurred. The deceased child's father placed the child in a bathtub of running water with the tub stopper up. The father placed the deceased child's siblings in another bathroom in a tub of water. While the father was helping the siblings bathe, he heard a gurgling noise. Upon the deceased child's father entering the bathroom, he found the child face up in the bathtub with his face under the running water. When the deceased child's mother returned home, the father informed her of what happened. The mother was visibly upset about what occurred. In the hours after the burn the deceased child's mother bathed the child again, door dashed some vaseline she used on his face, watched a movie, put a cold towel on his face, fed him hot chocolate among other things while the child's skin was peeling off. The deceased child went over thirty hours after sustaining the burns before any medical attention was sought. During that period the child started having multiple seizures with some lasting over thirty minutes. The mother and father did not call law enforcement until they thought the child was deceased. According to medical staff the deceased child had third degree burns to his neck and face. The deceased

child had linear purple bruises to the upper chest area at the sternum, red bruising at the bend of the arm, and a bruise to the left side of his jaw. The deceased child had elevated liver enzymes at the time he was admitted to the hospital that were consistent with a liver injury of an unknown origin. The mother nor the father could provide a plausible explanation for any of the deceased child's injuries. It was also found that the children had been observed with prior injuries per the mothers own admittance, yet she still allowed the father to care for the deceased child and siblings unsupervised. During the investigation the mother gave birth to a newborn child.

The Department consulted child abuse medical professionals with Forensic Assessment Center Network which concluded the death was highly concerning for physical abuse and medical neglect.

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

A law enforcement investigation was completed, and the mother was arrested for endangerment to a child and the father was arrested for capital murder.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the mother and father committed medical neglect of the deceased child, which led to his death. The mother and father failed to get the child medical attention after being severely burned.

The Department confirmed the mother and father committed physical abuse of the deceased child. The child sustained injuries that mother and father could not explain.

The Department confirmed the mother and father committed neglectful supervision of the two oldest siblings. The siblings were present at the time of the incident.

The department did not confirm the mother committed neglectful supervision of the youngest sibling.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
08/06/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial: Unsafe
12/01/2023: Safety Assessment - Reassessment: Safe with plan
Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Removal/Subcare

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation

Other Services:

The family was referred to Conservatorship services through the Department, which they accepted the services.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The Department sought and was granted Temporary Managing Conservatorship of the two older siblings who were placed into foster care. When the youngest sibling was born, the Department staffed for legal intervention however based on case circumstances, and the fact the father was still incarcerated, it was determined no petition would be filed and that the newborn would be safe in his mother's care supervised by family members.

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.