Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 111743235

County of Child's Residence: YOUNG

Gender: Male

Age: 1 Year(s) 8 Month(s)

Date of Death: 08/25/2023

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: Jimenez,Azariah

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 08/25/2023, 08/30/2023 - two reports were merged into a single investigation

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report of a fatal event after law enforcement was dispatched to the home. The deceased child had been left in a hot vehicle for over two hours and was found unresponsive. Attempts to revive the child were unsuccessful. The conditions of the home were unsafe for children. A second report was received regarding the same incident, alleging the deceased child's mother had been intoxicated.

The Department's investigation determined the deceased child's mother took the deceased child and his three siblings to the grocery store. Per interviews, the mother allowed the eight-year-old sibling to care for the deceased child most of the day. This included the sibling dressing the child in the morning and getting him in and out of his car seat when going to and from the grocery store. Once they returned home, the sibling began to help unload groceries. No one took the deceased child out of his car seat because he was sleeping. The mother went in and laid down in her bed for approximately two hours. She did not check on any of the children during this time because she assumed the eight-year-old sibling was caring for all three of the younger children, including deceased child. It was the eight-year-old sibling who realized the deceased child was not in the home, went to look for him, and found him still buckled in his car seat in the car. There was no evidence that mother was under the influence of alcohol when this event took place. When the home was initially observed, there were significant concerns for the safety of the children in the home due to the conditions of the home. There was standing water and raw sewage, as well as animal

excrement, trash, and old food throughout the home, which posed a significant risk of harm to all four children.

The medical examiner listed the cause of death as hyperthermia and the manner of death as accidental.

A law enforcement investigation was completed. Criminal charges against deceased child's mother were no billed by the grand jury.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of deceased child, which led to his death.

The Department confirmed the deceased child's mother and deceased child's father committed physical neglect of the deceased child and his three surviving siblings by allowing them to reside in an unsafe home environment.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
1.) 08/25/2023: Safety Assessment- Initial: Safe with a Plan
2.) 11/13/2023: Safety Assessment- Reassessment: Safe
Risk Assessment: Final Risk Level: Very High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation,Parent/Caregiver Training,Basic Needs Support

Other Services:

Home maker services, Family Support Services, Grief counseling, Household needs

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Immediately following deceased child's death, a safety plan was put into place in which the surviving siblings would reside in the maternal grandmother's home, which was appropriate. The plan remained in place for several months while deceased child's mother and father cleaned and fixed the family's home. The children returned home once the home conditions were repaired. The deceased child's mother and the two oldest siblings are participating in individual and family counseling as well as grief counseling.

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 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.