Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 110185230

County of Child's Residence: UPSHUR

Gender: Male

Age: 0 Year(s) 3 Month(s)

Date of Death: 06/12/2023

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: Flament,Kaizyn

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 06/12/2023

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report the deceased child was found unresponsive. The child was wrapped in a blanket and co-sleeping with the deceased child's sibling and the deceased child's mother.

The Department's investigation determined the deceased child's mother was co-sleeping with the child and sibling. The deceased child's mother was aware her prescription medication would make her drowsy. The deceased child's mother also admitted to using unknown amounts of marijuana in a vape pen.

Law Enforcement's investigation remained open when the Department's case closed pending the final autopsy results.

The Medical Examiner conducted an autopsy, but the final cause and manner of death were not available when the Department's case closed. The medical examiner indicated the cause of death is sudden unexpected infant death in an unsafe sleeping arrangement .

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the allegation the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child which led to his death. The deceased child's mother knew the marijuana and prescription medication made her drowsy and she chose to co-sleep with the child and the deceased child's sibling.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
6/12/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial - Safe with Plan
8/1/2023: Safety Assessment - Case Closure - Safe with Plan
Final Risk Assessment Level: Very High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Family Preservation

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Parent/Caregiver Training

Other Services:

The mother was referred to grief counseling and substance use treatment, and the mother accepted the referrals..

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The deceased child's siblings are in the care of a family member who has joint managing conservatorship of the siblings.

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:

02/14/2019 - 03/06/2020 Deceased child's oldest sibling - the sibling was returned to the mother's care at case closure.
03/23/2021 - 08/11/2022 Deceased child's siblings - the siblings were placed with a family member at case closure - the family member and the mother had Joint Managing Conservatorship.

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 11/09/2018

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report the deceased child's oldest sibling was positive for marijuana on the meconium test.

The Department's investigation determined the deceased child's mother admitted to using marijuana and the

mother was positive for methamphetamine on a hair strand test.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the allegation the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child's oldest sibling. The mother used both marijuana and methamphetamines during the pregnancy.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
11/11/2018: SDM Safety Assessment - Initial - Safe
12/14/2018: SDM Safety Assessment - Reassessment - Safe with Plan
1/18/2019: SDM Safety Assessment - Case Closure - Safe with Plan
Final Risk Assessment Level:

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Family Preservation

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

The mother was referred to the Family Preservation stage of service and the mother accepted the service.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Family Preservation stage (also known as Family Based Safety Services (FBSS) offered various programs including shelter and parenting. The deceased child's mother continued to test positive for methamphetamines and the deceased child's sibling was placed in foster care on 02/14/2019. The mother worked services successfully, the sibling was returned to her care, and the Conservatorship case was closed.

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 03/21/2021

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report the deceased child's younger sibling was born healthy, but there was limited prenatal care. The deceased child's mother has a history of substance use. The mother has medical issues and is considering allowing the younger sibling to be adopted.

The Department's investigation determined the deceased child's mother did not plan to keep either of the siblings and wanted a family member to care for the siblings. The deceased child's older sibling had been living with the family member for two months before the birth of the younger sibling.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child's sibling. The mother did not want to care for the sibling.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
3/22/2021: Safety Assessment - Initial - Safe
3/23/2021: Safety Assessment - Reassessment - Unsafe
Final Risk Assessment Level: High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Removal/Subcare

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

none

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The deceased child's siblings were removed and placed in foster care. They were placed in a family members home. The family member was awarded Joint Managing Conservatorship (JMC) with the deceased child's mother when the conservatorship case closed.

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 02/24/2023

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report the deceased child was admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) shortly after birth as he had inhaled meconium. The deceased child's mother has history of substance use, but was not tested at delivery.

The Department's investigation determined the mother was positive for hydrocodone and codeine when tested, but her prescription medications account for the positive tests. Collaterals confirm there is no indication the mother is using illegal substances. The deceased child's mother, the deceased child and the siblings were living with family members at case closure.

Investigation Findings:

The Department did not confirm allegations the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child and the deceased child's siblings. No indication of illegal substance use by the deceased child's mother and the family is currently living with extended family members.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:
2/27/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial - Safe
Final Risk Assessment Level: High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

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

Other Services:

none

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The family member with joint managing conservatorship of the siblings remains actively involved with the mother, the child and the siblings. The mother accepted the services and referrals provided.

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 10/24/2023 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.