Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 111087832

County of Child's Residence: DALLAS

Gender: Female

Age: 1 Year(s) 3 Month(s)

Date of Death: 05/31/2023

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: Rierson,Ahsoka

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 05/31/2023

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report the deceased one year old child had died after being left in the bathtub unattended.

The Departments investigation determined the deceased child's paternal aunt placed the deceased child and sibling, age three in the bathtub with the water running and left the bathroom to go outside to get the 6-year-old sibling's blanket out the car. Upon returning from getting the blanket out the car, the aunt came in the home, sat down on the couch, and fell asleep for approximately 45 minutes while the deceased child and sibling were still in the bathtub with the water running. It wasn't until the sibling started screaming that the deceased child's paternal great grandmother went into the bathroom and saw the deceased child floating at the top of the bathtub where it was overflowing. The aunt consented to taking a drug test that yielded positive results, her urine test was positive for marijuana and the hair strand drug test was positive for amphetamines, marijuana, and methamphetamines. The deceased child's mother denied having any prior knowledge of the aunt's substance use prior to leaving her children in aunt's care. The paternal great grandmother shared the role as caregiver for the children and she was aware the deceased child and sibling were left unattended in the bathtub per her own admittance and the aunt was in the same room with the great grandmother when she fell asleep.

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

A law enforcement investigation was completed, and the aunt was arrested for abandoning and endangering criminal negligence.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the Aunt and Great Grandmother committed Neglectful Supervision against the deceased child, which led to her death. They both admitted to leaving the child unattended in the bathtub.

The Department confirmed the Aunt and Great Grandmother committed Neglectful Supervision against the sibling. The three-year-old sibling does not have the cognitive ability to recognize the danger of water when placed in a tub unattended.

Safety Assessments:
05/31/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan
07/24/2023: Safety Assessment - Case Closure: Safe
Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: High

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

Protective Day Care and Counseling services were provided to the family. The mother accepted these services and was actively engaged prior to closure.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The risk was mitigated as the child's mother showed that she was protective by not allowing the siblings to have any contact with the Aunt and Great Grandmother.

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.