Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 111283738

County of Child's Residence: LLANO

Gender: Female

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

Date of Death: 06/27/2023

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: Hendrick,Rebel E

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 06/27/2023

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report notifying that a 4-week-old child was found deceased after bed sharing with the deceased child's mother. It was also reported that the mother admitted to being under the influence of alcohol while bed sharing.

The Department determined that the deceased child's mother consumed an unknown amount of alcohol prior to bed sharing with the deceased child. During the night, the deceased child's sibling attempted to wake the mother when the deceased child was heard crying and was unable to wake her. The sibling observed the mother's arm lying on the deceased child's throat. Drug paraphernalia was also found in the home.

The medical examiner completed an autopsy and provided the preliminary cause of death was asphyxiation. The full autopsy is pending.

Law enforcement is investigating the fatality. Law enforcement reported smelling alcohol on the mother's breath when they responded to the residence after the death. The mother's blood was then drawn to determine intoxication. Those results are still pending. The criminal case is pending the results of the blood draw.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the allegation that the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child, which led to the child's death. The deceased child's mother admitted to drinking alcohol prior to bed sharing with the deceased child. The sibling reported being unable to wake the mother during the night when the deceased child was heard crying and witnessed the mother's arm lying on the deceased child.

The Department confirmed the allegations that the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child's siblings. The mother consumed alcohol and was unable to be awakened during the night. Additionally, drug paraphernalia was found in the residence.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 06/27/2023: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan
2.) 07/10/2023: Safety Assessment - Reassessment: Safe with plan
3.) 07/28/2023: Safety Assessment - Reassessment: Safe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Very High

Case Action:

Fam refusal/No legal interven poss-Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation,Housing

Other Services:

The sibling and parents are receiving therapy services.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The Department sought legal intervention; however, legal intervention was denied.

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:

Previous Report of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 07/16/2021

Summary of Previous Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report notifying that the mother tested positive for marijuana at the time of the deceased child's sibling's birth.

The Department determined that the mother used marijuana while pregnant and also while being a caregiver to another sibling. It was found that the mother would leave the sibling in the home while she went outside to smoke marijuana.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed the allegation that the mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child's sibling because she used marijuana while pregnant.

The Department confirmed the allegation that the mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child's sibling because she would leave the child inside while she smoked marijuana outside the home.

The family agreed to accept Family Based Safety Services. The mother completed drug testing and therapy services.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 07/16/2021: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan
2.) 07/23/2021: Safety Assessment - Case Closure: Safe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Moderate

Case Action:

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Other Services:

The mother was offered drug testing and accepted the service.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The mother agreed to be supervised with the children. The family was referred to Family Based Safety Services to further mitigate safety and risk factors. The family agreed to participate in services.

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 10/25/2023 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.