



## Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

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**Person ID:** 117162232

**County of Child's Residence:** TARRANT

**Gender:** Male

**Age:** 0 Year(s) 1 Month(s)

**Date of Death:** 07/27/2025

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 entitled to the child's possession.

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**Child's Name:** Cooke,Zacharia

**Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:**

**Intake Date(s):** 06/04/2025, 06/12/2025, 07/27/2025, 07/27/2025 - four reports merged into single

**Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:**

The Department received an initial report stating the deceased child's mother was positive for cocaine and amphetamines upon admission to hospital on 06/02/25. The deceased child was born on 06/03/3025 and his urinalysis was positive for amphetamines, and his meconium was pending. A second report was received stating that the deceased child and the mother tested positive for either methamphetamines or heroin at the child's birth. The deceased child was said to still be in the hospital, but the mother was discharged. The mother had a warrant out for her arrest due to a parole violation and no place to live. Two additional reports were received regarding the deceased child passing away. Law enforcement believed the deceased child's death was from a fentanyl overdose. They saw a two-foot-long blood trail in the deceased child's crib and there were multiple crack pipes and marijuana in a drawer nearby. The home was reported to be dilapidated and dirty with a very smelly odor and flies everywhere. There was also no working air conditioner in the home. The deceased child was supposed to be residing at a different address where a safety plan, initiated by the Department, was in place.

The Department's initial investigation determined that the mother tested positive for amphetamines and cocaine after the deceased child's birth. The deceased child's mother originally denied any substance use, but she later admitted to a history of using substances. A safety plan was implemented, with the mother being supervised at all times when with the deceased child. A family friend agreed to provide this supervision. The mother also agreed to work services with the Department. After the deceased child's death, the Department's investigation determined that the mother had moved in with a different family, and the family friend would bring the deceased child over to this residence for the mother to visit and would sometimes spend the night. After the fatality, the deceased child's mother tested

positive for methamphetamines on a urine drug screen but refused a hair strand test. The family friend who was to supervise the mother and deceased child's contact indicated that the mother and deceased child were unsupervised the night before the death as the deceased child slept in the mother's room.

The medical examiner conducted an autopsy, and the manner of death was ruled a homicide with the cause of death being methamphetamine toxicity.

Law enforcement conducted an investigation that was still ongoing at the time the Department's investigation closed. They did indicate that manslaughter or injury to a child causing death charges were being considered.

#### **Investigation Findings:**

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

The Department confirmed the deceased child's mother committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child.

The Department confirmed the family friend committed neglectful supervision of the deceased child.

#### **Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:**

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:

1.) 06/10/2025: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe with plan

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Risk Assessment not required by Policy.

#### **Case Action:**

Only child died

#### **Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:**

##### **Other Services:**

The deceased child's mother accepted services and referrals offered and was willing to participate in Family-Based Safety Services.

##### **Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:**

The deceased child's mother agreed to a safety plan in which she would be supervised by a family friend at all times around the deceased child. The mother agreed to complete services as part of Family-Based Safety Services however the fatality occurred prior to the case being opened for services.

The Department's investigation was closed.

**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:**

Not applicable.

**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 05/12/2026 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.