## Child Fatality Summary

**Child's Name:** Sierrah Scott-Franklin **County:** Alachua

**Date of Birth:** 04/27/2025 **Date of Death:** 01/14/2026

**Report Number:** 2026-016814

### Family Composition Chart

| Name | Age at Time of Incident | Relationship with Deceased Child |
|---|---|---|
| Sierrah Scott-Franklin | 7-months-old | Decedent |
| Tierra Scott-Franklin | 23 years old | Mother |

### Circumstances Surrounding Death

On January 15, 2026, a report was received regarding the death of a 7-month-old infant.

The day prior, January 14, 2026, the mother filled the bathtub halfway and placed the infant in the tub before leaving the bathroom and closing the door behind her. She returned after several minutes finding the infant unresponsive. The mother then calls 911 to report that she had just killed the infant by drowning her in the bathtub at their apartment. The call was generated at 12:52 p.m.

The 911 call lasts 11 minutes and 41 seconds until law enforcement and EMS arrive at the residence. During the call, the mother appears emotional, distraught, and mentions she "keeps hearing people talking to [her]" and that there are voices in her head. Despite this, she provides her address and demographic information to dispatch. The mother becomes suicidal during the call and advises she is "cutting" herself as the dispatcher attempts to calm the mother and have her put the knife down.

After about 10 minutes, law enforcement arrives on scene, detains the mother, locates the infant, and begins to perform CPR. Once EMS arrived, life-saving measures were taken over, and she was transported to the hospital.

Despite life-saving efforts, the infant was pronounced deceased at 1:29 p.m. while at UF Health Shands Hospital.

While still on scene, the mother informed officers, "if I can't have my baby, no one can" as well as "I'm sorry, but I do not regret it." The mother was on probation for unrelated charges and was afraid she was going to lose custody of her daughter. The mother also told officers on scene she had been "researching suffocation."

Alachua County Sheriff's Office arrested the mother on January 14, 2026, for Homicide: Murder First Degree Premeditated. The criminal case is still active and the mother remains incarcerated.

The death certificate was received and indicated Medical Examiner, Kailee Amanda Imperatore (ME#130521), signed and certified the death certificate for the infant on February 5, 2026.

Cause of Death: Drowning

Manner of Death: Homicide

On July 28, 2026, the Department of Children and Families' investigation was closed with verified findings for Death, Asphyxiation, and Inadequate Supervision as to the mother. The mother admitted to placing her infant in a bathtub of water until the infant's face was submerged under water, then leaving the infant unattended which resulted in the infant drowning.

**Other Children in the Home**

There are no surviving children in the home. [redacted]

**Summary of Current Agency Involvement with Family**

The family is not engaged in any services with the department. The mother is still undergoing criminal prosecution and remains incarcerated at closure of the department's investigation.

**Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family**

The mother had one prior case with the department in 2025, which was closed not substantiated for Household Violence Threatens Child. At closure of that investigation, the mother was referred to community services. [redacted]

It appears the mother moved from several different states, including Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, and Minnesota. There are no other records located for the mother outside of Florida and Minnesota, [redacted]

[redacted]

*Taylor Hayes* *08/13/2026*

*Taylor Hayes* ***Date***
***NER Child Fatality Prevention Specialist***

***Racquel Courts*** *08/13/2026*

*Racquel Courts* ***Date***
***NER Program Manager***