Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 117617235

County of Child's Residence: HARRIS

Gender: Female

Age: 0 Year(s) 6 Month(s)

Date of Death: 08/06/2025

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 entititled to the child's possession.

Child's Name: Abrams,Scarlet

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 08/04/2025, 08/04/2025 - two reports merged into a single investigation

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received two reports stating that on 08/04/2025 around 4:36pm, the deceased child was brought to the hospital by ambulance and not breathing. The deceased child's mother and father were not present at the hospital but had reported at the scene, that the mother had fed the child and put her down in the crib and later found the child not breathing. The child was found to have swelling and a hematoma to the right side of the head and the medical staff are concerned this was an inflicted injury and non-accidental trauma and there was a high likelihood the child would not survive.

The Department's investigation determined that the deceased child lived with her mother, father, and her paternal grandfather. critical infant born at 24 weeks with many medical conditions. She was released to the mother with no documented injuries to the brain or skull. The child was in the care of the mother when she was found unresponsive and emergency medical personnel was contacted. The mother reported that she is a home health care assistant and was washing dishes at one of her client's homes. She had placed the child down on the couch and when she didn't hear anything and went to check on her, she found the child unresponsive. She also stated to medical personnel and investigators that the child hit her head on the refrigerator. The grandfather reported that the child was fine on the day of the incident before leaving with the mother. He also reported the child had sustained a knot on her head previously that he discussed with the father, however the mother and father did not seek medical care as they did not think it necessary. The mother again claimed the child hit her head on the refrigerator. Per medical staff, this social history provided did not support the findings of the listed injuries, so the diagnosis of abusive head trauma was rendered. The child later succumbed to her injuries. The father was not present at the time of the incident as he was at work.

The mother's client was not in the home at the time of the incident. The mother and father sought legal counsel and declined to participate further in the Department's investigation due to pending criminal charges.

Medical records were reviewed by one of the Department's nurse consults and it was reported the child was a critical infant born at 24 weeks with many medical conditions. The child was released to the mother on 06/24/2025 with no documented injuries to the brain or skull. At the time of the fatal injuries, the child was found to have a depressed right sided parietal skull fracture, bilateral subdural bleed, bilateral subarachnoid bleed believed to be from trauma and an anoxic brain injury believed to be from her prolonged cardiopulmonary resuscitation

The medical examiner completed an autopsy however the final report was still pending at the time the Department's investigation closed. The medical examiner did indicate that during the autopsy, he observed a fracture on the right parietal bone and bleeding in the cranial cavity. There was hemorrhaging in the eyes, and he submitted a request to do a more detailed examination on the bones, eyes, and spinal cord for review by another pathologist. He stated the injuries to the head required significant force and would not be consistent with a fall or bumping the refrigerator as the mother attempted to explain. The exact mechanism used to cause the injuries could not yet be determined and more testing was being completed, but his preliminary findings indicated the death was trauma related and nonaccidental.

Law enforcement conducted an investigation and was pursuing criminal charges against the mother, however no arrests had been made at the time the Department's investigation closed.

Investigation Findings:

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

The Department was unable to determine if the deceased child's father committed physical abuse of the deceased child.

The Department did not confirm the deceased child's paternal grandfather committed physical abuse of the deceased child.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 08/05/2025: 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:

Parent/Caregiver Training

Other Services:

The family refused to accept services offered by the Department and sought legal counsel.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

Not applicable.

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.