Child Fatality Report Release of Information to the Public

Person ID: 117863647

County of Child's Residence: OUT OF STATE

Gender: Male

Age: 7 Year(s) 11 Month(s)

Date of Death: 09/01/2025

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: Chavez,Jeremiah

Current Report(s) of Abuse/Neglect:

Intake Date(s): 09/01/2025

Summary of Allegation(s)/Investigation:

The Department received a report that law enforcement responded to the home where the deceased child was found shot. It was noted that the deceased child's uncle left his Glock 22 40 caliber on the futon that is in the living room/kitchen area. The gun was in a holster, but the holster did not have any safety latches. The uncle reported he turned around to clean something up when either the deceased child or the deceased child's two-year-old sibling got a hold of the gun and fired the weapon. The deceased child was shot in the head.

The Department's investigation determined that the firearm was placed next to the deceased child's sibling who removed the firearm from a holster that did not have a safety strap or retention device. The uncle was cooking and proceeded to clean up some spilled rice when he removed the gun from his body. The firearm had a live round chambered in the barrel. The sibling grabbed the gun that had been placed on the couch while the uncle was cleaning the food up off the floor and pointed the firearm at the deceased child and pulled the trigger. The family had limited cooperation with the Department. The family was originally from California and moved back during the investigation.

The medical examiner conducted an autopsy, and the preliminary cause of death was stated to be due to the gun shot. The final report was still pending at the time the Department's investigation closed.

Law enforcement conducted an investigation, and the uncle was arrested and charged with manslaughter.

Investigation Findings:

The Department confirmed that the uncle committed neglectful supervision against the deceased child which led to the child's death.

The Department confirmed that the uncle committed neglectful supervision against the deceased child's sibling.

Safety and Risk Assessment Factors Identified:

Structured Decision Making Safety Assessments:
1.) 09/01/2025: Safety Assessment - Initial: Safe
2.) 10/31/2025: Safety Assessment - Case Closure: Safe

Risk Assessment Final Risk Level: Moderate

Case Action:

Close

Services and Referrals Provided to the Family:

Counseling and Evaluation,Parent/Caregiver Training

Other Services:

The family was offered counseling however they moved out of state prior to the investigation being closed.

Other Actions Taken to Mitigate Risk:

The Department staffed the case with legal for an order to aide however the father eventually agreed to let the children be interviewed. The uncle left the RV park after the incident.

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.