

A.S. CIRT PUBLIC Report

Date	August 6, 2019
Date of Initial Report	August 6, 2019
Purpose Statement	<p>Critical incident reports are used as tools for reviewing Department actions when the Department becomes aware of a critical incident resulting in a child fatality that was likely the result of abuse and the child, child's sibling or another child living in the household with the child has had contact with the Department (DHS). The reviews are called by the Department Director to quickly analyze DHS actions in relation to the critical incident and to ensure the safety and well-being of all children within the custody of DHS or during a child protective services assessment. The CIRT recommends which actions should be implemented and which individuals should be responsible for evaluating the implementation. Reports must not contain any confidential information or records that may not be disclosed to members of the public. Versions of all final reports are posted on the DHS' website.</p>
Executive Summary	<p>On June 2, 2019 the Department received a report alleging neglect of the child, A.S. According to the report, the mother was driving while intoxicated early in the morning and was involved in a crash. A.S. was in the vehicle and died at the scene.</p> <p>On June 11, 2019, the Department Director declared a CIRT be convened.</p> <p>There is moderate child welfare history on this family, with no prior open cases. The last assessment was in 2018, prior to the birth of A.S.</p>
Summary of Critical Incident	<p>In the early morning hours of June 2, 2019, the child, A.S., was killed in a car accident. The child's mother was driving while intoxicated at</p>

	<p>the time and A.S. died on the scene. The mother and a sibling survived.</p> <p>The report was assigned for CPS assessment on June 2, 2019 and it was quickly determined A.S.'s death was the result of neglect by the mother. During the course of the assessment it was learned the mother had been consuming alcohol at a family party throughout the evening. The mother received a ride home from the party but then left home at a later time with A.S. and another child. Neither child was properly restrained in the vehicle at the time of the crash.</p> <p>The mother has been arrested and is facing criminal charges as a result of the crash. No prior concerns had been identified during previous assessments regarding substance misuse by the mother.</p>
<p>Evaluation of Department Actions</p>	<p>The team did not identify any systemic issues related to the death of A.S. The safety of the child was never assessed by the department and the prior assessments addressed unrelated concerns.</p> <p>Lack of contact with legal fathers during CPS assessments was noted as a practice issue that arose throughout prior contacts with the family.</p>
<p>Recommendations for improvements and associated tasks</p>	<p>The local district will partner with child safety consultants to appropriately address the identified practice issue.</p>
<p>Methods of evaluating expected outcomes</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>