

Child Fatality Summary

Child's Name: Delvon Marlin

County: Polk

Date of Birth: January 7, 2014

Date of Death: December 9, 2018

Report Number: 2018-777242

Family Composition Chart

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Delvon Marlin	4 years old	Decedent
[REDACTED]	15 years old	Cousin
[REDACTED]	12 years old	Cousin
Antonio Washington	51 years old	Maternal great uncle
Johnetta Marlin-Washington	54 years old	Maternal great aunt

Circumstances Surrounding Death

On December 9, 2018, the 4-year old child passed away after an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

According to the family, the following information was provided and the investigation is closed.

On December 9, 2018 the family stayed around the home all day. The children watched television and movies while the caregivers cooked and did laundry. At around 6:30 p.m. Antonio had come home from his father's home and Johnetta was cooking dinner. Shortly thereafter they heard a loud pop. Antonio ran to their room and found Delvon on the floor. Antonio picked Delvon up and they drove him to the hospital as they live close. The gun was normally kept in a safe but had been recently kept under the bed mattress due to some recent concerns for break ins in the neighborhood. [REDACTED]

Delvon was taken to Highlands Regional Medical Center where he was pronounced deceased.

Both caregivers completed drug screens and were negative for any substances.

The Department completed the investigation into the death of Delvon Marlin on February 7, 2019 with the following findings:

Death: Verified

Inadequate Supervision: Verified

- The findings are verified as the weapon was kept loaded and was in a location easily accessible to the child even with a short lack of supervision.

The Sebring Police Department completed their investigation into the death of Delvon Marlin. Case#18-002317 was closed with charges being filed against Mr. Washington for culpable negligence. The charges have been forwarded to the State Attorney's Office for review.

The District 10 Medical Examiner's autopsy was completed by Associate Medical Examiner, Vera Volnikh, M.D. with the following findings:

Cause of Death: Gunshot wound of head
Manner of Death: Accident

This report does not meet the requirements for a Critical Incident Rapid Response Team.

Other Children in the Family:

The remaining children in the home were found to be safe. The family was provided with grief counseling through Neighbor to Family diversion services.

Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family

The family has no prior history with the Department.



Central Region Child Fatality Prevention Specialist
Timothy Starnes

2/15/19

Date



Family Safety Program Manager
Alger Studstill

2-14-19

Date