

Statement on the near death of a 5-year-old male & death of 10-year-old male Braecius Nunez

Date Issued: November 6, 2024

On May 22, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 5-year-old male child and 10-year-old Braecius Nunez, who had been involved in a wrong way motor vehicle crash and were not properly restrained. Upon examination, the 5-year-old near fatality victim was determined to be in serious condition with severe head trauma. Braecius was transported to the hospital by EMS where he was pronounced deceased.

Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was assessed as safe in the care of the mother, Lora Nunez. There were no other children in the home.

The Department substantiated the allegation of neglect by the mother, Lora Nunez, who was under the influence of alcohol and did not ensure the children were properly restrained in the vehicle when it was being operated by another adult.

The Department provided the family with information on services available in the community.

DCS received the following prior reports involving Mrs. Nunez:

On July 25, 2018, the Department received a report alleging neglect to the 5-year-old near fatality victim and 10-year-old Braecius Nunez by the mother, Lora Nunez, and father. The report alleged concerns for unsafe sleep/co-sleeping in the home in addition to concern for the living conditions. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the family participated in in-home services. The case was closed on November 28, 2018.