

**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
OFFICE OF JUVENILE SYSTEM OVERSIGHT**

Report Release Date: November 21, 2014,

Review of the Death of Jaquelin Caldwell

Of Oklahoma County, Oklahoma

General Information

On March 24, 2014, the Office of Juvenile Oversight (OJSO) received a request for a public report regarding the death of fifteen-year-old Jaquelin Caldwell. Jaquelin's grandfather and adoptive father, Lochinvar Caldwell, was charged on April 7, 2014, with Murder in the First Degree, Assault and Battery, Kidnapping, Indecent Exposure, and Possession of a Controlled Dangerous Substance.

Authorization

The following is a summary of the actions taken by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS); the dates and outcome of investigations and actions taken by the OKDHS; the actions taken by the district attorney; the dates and summary of judicial proceedings; and the rulings of the court, as authorized by 10A O.S. Section 1-6-105.

Identifiers

Child's name:	Jaquelin Caldwell
Date of Birth:	August 9, 1998
Date of Death:	March 21, 2014
Person Responsible for the Child:	Lochinvar Caldwell, grandfather and adoptive father
Sibling One:	Seventeen-years-old

The Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) did not become aware of this family until after the death incident.

Criminal Charges

The Oklahoma State Courts Network (OSCN) system documented that charges were filed against Lochinvar Caldwell on April 7, 2014, as Criminal Felony proceedings. The charges of Murder in the First Degree and Assault and Battery were filed by the Oklahoma County District Attorney's office. The OSCN documented that a Warrant of Arrest was issued for Lochinvar Caldwell on April 8, 2014, and that a bond was denied. This case was still pending at the time of this report.

Death Incident

The OKDHS received a report that Lochinvar Caldwell shot and killed his grandson, Jaquelin, in the family home sometime during the day of March 21, 2014. According to the documentation, Sibling One was in the home and was not permitted to leave the home for several hours after the incident occurred. Documentation further stated that Sibling One was able to escape the home when Mr. Caldwell went outside and had an altercation with a neighbor.

The OKDHS investigation was still pending at the time of this report.

The Oklahoma Office of the Chief Medical Examiner found that the manner of death in this case was Homicide, with a probable cause of death listed as Gunshot Wound of the Head.

Prior Involvement with the Department of Human Services

There were two prior reports made to the OKDHS that were pertinent to the death of Jaquelin Caldwell because they involved physical abuse.

The OKDHS accepted both reports as Priority II Assessments. In the first report dated December 8, 2008, the OKDHS documented that Jaquelin's left eye was slightly swollen underneath his lower eye lashes and was reddish pink with a speckled appearance. The report documented that Jaquelin and Sibling One both denied any physical abuse and that Jaquelin and his grandfather suspected he had been bitten by a spider while he slept. Because this report was accepted as an assessment, there was no finding made on the part of the OKDHS.

The second relevant report dated June 16, 2011, alleged that twelve-year-old Jaquelin was being physically abused on his back and arms with a belt by his grandfather and adoptive father, Lochinvar Caldwell. The report further alleged that Jaquelin had run away from home at one point and was terrified of his grandfather.

The OKDHS documented that upon observation of Jaquelin, he did not have any scars or fresh wounds that indicated physical abuse. The OKDHS further documented that both Jaquelin and Sibling One denied all allegations of physical abuse by their grandfather. Because this report was accepted as an assessment, there was no finding made on the part of the OKDHS.

Judicial proceedings prior to the child's death incident

Both Jaquelin and Sibling One were placed into OKDHS Custody on May 19, 2004, and were in custody until June 1, 2007, when the adoption by their grandfather occurred. The Juvenile Court proceedings were closed on that date.