

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

**Report Release Date: May 6, 2019
Review of the Death of Lincoln Lewis
of Oklahoma County, Oklahoma**

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) received a request for a public report regarding the death of Lincoln Lewis. A charge of Murder in the First Degree was filed in Oklahoma County District Court on July 28, 2016, against Bert Glen Franklin, a Person Responsible for the Child (PRFC).

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: Lincoln Lewis
Date of Birth: December 23, 2014
Date of Death: July 18, 2016
PRFC: Bert Glen Franklin
Siblings:
 Sibling 1, age six-years-old
 Sibling 2, age ten-years-old

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

Death Incident

Lincoln was taken to the hospital on July 17, 2016, by Bert Franklin and a relative of the child. The child was unresponsive, and had two skull fractures, a displaced right parietal bone and displaced left occipital bone as well as a subdural bleed. Lincoln was admitted in critical condition.

Lincoln was then life flighted to another medical facility which specialized in children's health issues. The examining health professionals indicated that the injuries appeared to be a result of child abuse. The relative who was present at that time, later requested that Bert Franklin leave the medical facility.

Bert Franklin was arrested and charged with Murder 1 on July 28, 2016. The OKDHS determined that the two siblings were safe in the mother's home. The OKDHS did confirm the allegation of Abuse: Death, as to Bert Franklin.

The Medical Examiner's Report, documented that the Cause of Death was blunt force trauma of the head and that the manner of death was Homicide. It was further documented by the Medical Examiner that Lincoln had: a red linear abrasion on the right lateral of his head; marked bilateral scalp and subgaleal hemorrhages; complex fractures, left occipital bone and right parietal bone; contusions to buttocks and posterior right forearm/wrist; and soft tissue hemorrhage, posterior left forearm/wrist.

The District Court of Oklahoma County documented that on September 6, 2018, Bert Franklin was found guilty by Jury trial and on October 19, 2018 was sentenced by the Court to life to in Department of Corrections. It was also documented he was to serve a term of post imprisonment supervision for 9 – 12 months following confinement.

Prior Involvement of the PRFC with the Department of Human Services

There was no pertinent, prior involvement with the Department of Human Services in regard to this family.

Judicial proceedings prior to the child's near death

There were no judicial proceedings prior to Lincoln's death.