

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

Report Release Date: April 28, 2016

**Review of the Death of Chance Trepp
Of Tulsa County, Oklahoma**

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) received a request for a public report regarding the death of Chance Trepp. A charge of Child Abuse Murder was filed in Tulsa County District Court on August 14, 2015, against Jon Scarce 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 DHS; 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:	Chance Trepp
Age at time of Incident:	Three-years-old
Date of Birth	March 27, 2012
Date of Death:	August 10, 2015
Alleged PRFC:	Jon Scarce

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

Death Incident

Chance Trepp was brought to a medical center on August 10, 2015, with injuries to his face and head. The medical facility documented that the child had a skull fracture and severe contusions to the left side of his face. The child was unresponsive on arrival and had a subdural brain bleed and retinal hemorrhages. Chance was immediately taken for an emergency craniotomy to relieve the pressure on his brain. It was reported that Jon Scarce was at home alone with Chance and Sibling 1 while Chance's, mother went to the grocery store. Scarce reported he was doing dishes when he let the dogs and children go out in the backyard to play. He reported that Sibling 1 came into the home

and reported that Chance had fallen out of a tree. Jon Scarce reported that he called Chance's mother to come home and they then took Chance for medical attention. Medical professionals documented that Chance's injuries were not consistent with falling out of a tree but were consistent with non-accidental trauma. It was reported to OKDHS that Jon Scarce's right hand was swollen. He reported that his girlfriend had closed the car door on his hand when they were leaving for the hospital. Chance was pronounced deceased at 10:00 am on August 10, 2015. The OKDHS made an overall finding of Substantiated in regard to this Priority 1 Investigation.

Prior Involvement of the PRFC with the Department of Human Services

There were prior reports of involvement with the OKDHS of which three have been deemed pertinent to this report.

On April 19, 2012, it was reported that Jon Scarce's wife and children were involved in a domestic violence incident where Mr. Scarce was the alleged perpetrator of the domestic abuse. The OKDHS made an overall finding of Unsubstantiated with Services Recommended. The OKDHS documented that they told Jon Scarce that the children needed to be in therapy; he and his spouse needed Domestic Violence education and that he needed to complete an anger management course.

On May 3, 2013, it was reported to OKDHS that the children were living with Jon Scarce at a relative's home. It was reported the mother and Mr. Scarce were involved in a domestic violence incident where Mr. Scarce was allegedly the perpetrator of the domestic abuse. The parents were uncooperative and would not be interviewed by the OKDHS. The OKDHS made an overall finding of Failure to Cooperate.

On January 14, 2014, it was reported to OKDHS that the children were not attending school and that the mother had a black eye. It was also alleged that both parents engaged in domestic disputes. Jon Scarce denied any domestic violence but the OKDHS did make the recommendation that a Domestic Violence intake should be completed by both parents. The OKDHS made an overall finding of Unsubstantiated.

Judicial proceedings prior to the child's death

There were two protective orders filed against Jon Scarce. One was filed in 2012 and was later dismissed. The second one was filed in 2015 and there is no record of dismissal.

There were two criminal charges of assault and battery filed against Jon Scarce in 2014. He plead guilty to both charges on 7/31/2014. He was also charged with violating a protective order on 5/22/2015. There has been no disposition as to this charge at the time of this report.