

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

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

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) received an inquiry regarding the near death of fifteen-year-old J.J. A felony charge of Child Abuse by Injury and Child Neglect was filed by the Lincoln County District Attorney on July 23, 2018, against the biological father, Jimmy Jones, Sr. A felony charge of Enabling Child Abuse and Child Neglect was filed by the Lincoln County District Attorney on July 23, 2018, against the step-mother, Amy Jones. A felony charge of Child Neglect was filed by the Lincoln County District Attorney on July 23, 2018, against the adult step-brother, Tyler Adkins.

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: J.J.

Age at time of Incident: Fifteen-years-old

Persons Responsible for the Child: Jimmy Jones, Sr.

Amy Jones

Tyler Adkins

Sibling: Four-years-old

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

Near Death Incident

The near death report was received by the Lincoln County OKDHS on June 29, 2018. Reportedly, fifteen-year-old J.J. was pulled out of school a few years earlier in order to be homeschooled. On the evening of June 28, 2018, J.J. was observed picking up sticks along the fence line. He was observed to be very thin and was not believed to have any teeth or hair. He was observed with a black eye and bruises on his body. When J.J. was

approached and asked what happened, J.J. was hard to understand and appeared as though he was not able to really speak to people outside of the home. Prior to this interaction, Jimmy had not been seen in a month and prior to that it had been about a year. J.J. had “buck teeth” and did not seem to brush his teeth as they were discolored, but the cause of his lost teeth was unknown. Reportedly, J.J. was diagnosed with an intellectual deficiency and operated on the level of a first or second grade child.

The OKDHS accepted the report as a Priority II Investigation. The persons interviewed during the investigation included the biological father, Jimmy Jones, Sr., the step-mother, Amy Jones, the step-brother, Tyler Adkins, and various collaterals.

The OKDHS documented that medical staff and medical records confirmed J.J. suffered from severe malnourishment. The OKDHS documented that medical staff felt “confident [the child’s] life was saved in the nick of time. It was also found that J.J. had bird shot in his leg. This was the result of him being previously shot in the leg, in which he did not receive medical attention. Medical staff later determined J.J. had lead in his blood stream which was suspected to have been caused by the bird shot remaining in his leg. J.J. suffered from three broken ribs that were all in different stages of healing. All of the child’s fingers had been broken which never received medical attention, making it impossible for him to straighten his hands all the way or use his fingers to complete simple tasks, such as, tying his shoes. J.J. also had “many healing lacerations on [the] head” which had been super glued shut.

The OKDHS documented the sibling was observed to be of normal height and weight. There were no signs of abuse or neglect observed on the sibling.

The OKDHS made a Substantiated findings as to the allegations of Abuse/Other and Failure to Obtain Medical Attention as to J.J. by Jimmy Jones, Sr. and Amy Jones. The OKDHS made a Substantiated finding as to the allegation of Neglect/Near Death as to J.J. by Jimmy Jones Sr., Amy Jones, and Tyler Adkins. The OKDHS recommended a deprived petition be filed to immediately terminate parental rights as to both J.J. and the sibling “due to the abuse and neglect being heinous and shocking.”

Prior Pertinent Involvement of the PRFC with the Department of Human Services

There was one pertinent report prior to the near death incident of fifteen-year-old J.J. A report was received on December 5, 2016. Reportedly, the then thirteen-year-old J.J. always appeared dirty and wore clothes that were too small for him. His shoes had holes in them as well. J.J. was reportedly always very hungry and would hoard food from the school cafeteria. J.J. appeared extremely thin and malnourished. J.J. would eat breakfast and lunch at school. Reportedly, J.J. appeared very depressed and would often state he wished he would die and nobody loved him. The reporter did not believe J.J. had a plan for dying. It was reported J.J. was intellectually disabled and was in special education classes.

The OKDHS accepted the report as a Priority I Investigation. The OKDHS documented they made contact with the family on December 5, 2016.

The OKDHS documented that upon initial contact with the family, J.J. did not appear to be malnourished. The OKDHS documented the father told them that J.J. had always appeared small for his age but his medical doctor never expressed that something was wrong. The OKDHS documented J.J. told them he bathed daily and got plenty to eat.

The OKDHS made an Unsubstantiated finding as to the allegations of Failure to Provide Adequate Nutrition and Inadequate Physical Care of J.J. by Jimmy Jones Sr. and Amy Jones. The OKDHS recommended the family seek additional services through Comprehensive Home Based Services (CHBS) and to follow up with J.J.'s primary care physician. However, the OKDHS documented the family declined the services.

Pertinent Judicial proceedings prior to the child's near death

There were no pertinent prior Judicial proceedings in regard to this case.