

NOTE: The information included below reflects the department's current understanding of records, reports, and documents available to us at this time. Our investigation remains ongoing.

Family

There are two separate family households. At the time of Rica Roundtree's death, she lived with her father and father's girlfriend.

The following is the composition of father's household:

- Rica Roundtree, age 8 at the time of death
- Girlfriend's oldest daughter, age 15
- Girlfriend's oldest son, age 17
- Girlfriend's younger daughter, age 6
- Sister, age 1
- Father
- Father's Girlfriend

The following is the composition of Mother's household:

- Mother
- Stepfather
- Son, age 12

Previous History

Rica Roundtree came to live with her Father on 9/29/16 following a drug raid in her mother's home. Father was given legal custody of Rica by a McLean County Domestic Relations Court Order. During the custody case, Rica was assigned a guardian ad litem, after the mother filed an order of protection against the father. Mother's request for an order of protection was denied and father was granted custody of the minor in September, 2016. DCFS had previous contact with both households and the details are included in the timeline.

Rica Timeline

06/19/2014 DCFS received a report alleging abuse against mother. The reporter stated that an older sibling was psychiatrically hospitalized following a physical altercation between sibling and mother. Sibling alleged being choked and thrown through a screen door by mother and an older sibling. This report

was unfounded and expunged.

- 9/20/2014 DCFS received a report alleging neglect against Mother. The report states that mother and stepfather were physically fighting. Rica was living with her father during this time. Report was unfounded and expunged.
- 10/21/15 DCFS received a report against mother alleging neglect due to domestic violence. Police were called to mother's home for a report of physical fighting between the adults in the presence of the children. The report was unfounded and expunged.
- 12/18/15 An intact case was opened briefly for the purpose of providing mother with Norman Funds to assist with housing and related needs.
- 04/13/2016 DCFS received a report alleging Rica's brother sexually abused a child in another state.
- 06/16/2016 DCFS received a report alleging Substantial Risk of harm Risk of harm/Incidents of physical violence or intimidation against mother. The report alleges that mother instigated a physical altercation between her son and a neighbor child. Rica was not involved in this report. The report was unfounded.
- 09/29/2016 DCFS received a report alleging neglect. The report alleges that two undercover agents bought cocaine from the home of mother while Rica and her stepbrother were present in the home. Mother was arrested. The children were released to father by the police at mother's request. Father was subsequently granted custody of Rica Roundtree following this incident. Mother was indicated.
- 07/23/17 DCFS received a report alleging abuse against father and father's girlfriend. The report states that Rica disclosed that father and father's girlfriend were regularly whipping her with a belt. There was a heated custody dispute in court. The police were involved and Rica was returned to father. The investigation was unfounded and expunged.
- 04/20/18 DCFS received a report alleging cuts, welts and bruises as to Rica against father and father's girlfriend. The report alleges Rica had a split lip, black eye and new and old scars on her neck. A DCFS investigator interviewed Rica, who explained all injuries to include a broken tooth were accidental. Rica was also observed to have a healing gash over her eye. Rica stated she hit her eye getting a hairbrush in the bathroom. She said she hit her eye on the medicine cabinet. She said she broke her tooth falling onto a drawer in the bedroom. Rica denied anyone was hurting her in the home nor that she was fearful of anyone. The investigation was

unfounded on 6/19/18.

- 12/10/2018 DCFS received a report alleging abuse against father and father's girlfriend. The report states Rica missed two days of school and came back with two black eyes. Rica stated she missed the first day of school because she was sick. And the second day because she fell on her toys causing the injuries. Rica consistently told the physician, the reporter and DCFS investigator that she injured her eye when she accidentally fell on toys landing on the toy box. The child denied anyone injured or harmed her. The investigation was unfounded on 12/31/18.
- 12/11/18 DCFS received a report alleging inadequate shelter, inadequate supervision and lock out against mother as to Rica's half sibling. Rica's half sibling had been living out of state with a maternal relative and the relative sent the youth back to Illinois to be with mother. Mother indicated she is homeless and in need of drug treatment. Mother agreed to intact services which began for on 12/27/18. Mother was sentenced to the Illinois Department of Corrections on 1/10/19 and her son was taken into protective custody by DCFS. Juvenile Court appointed DCFS temporary custodian of the son on 1/11/19. Mother was indicated for inadequate supervision.
- 01/26/2019 DCFS received a report that Rica arrived at the hospital with life threatening trauma. The minor arrived at the hospital with a large bruise to her abdominal section and went immediately into surgery for internal injuries. She was unresponsive and subsequently died from the injuries. The allegations against father and father's girlfriend are: death by neglect, torture, cuts welts and bruises, injuries by neglect and substantial risk of physical injury/injurious environment. The other children living in the home of father and father's girlfriend are staying with relatives under a safety plan.
- 1/31/2019 DCFS received a report alleging substantial risk of physical injury/injurious environment. The report alleges father and father's girlfriend violated the safety plan by having contact with the children.
- 2/11/19 The other siblings living in the home of father and father's girlfriend were taken into protective custody.
- 2/13/19 Juvenile Court granted temporary custody of the surviving siblings to DCFS. The children are placed in a home.
- 5/19/19 DCFS concludes their investigation from the January 26, 2019 report. Richard Roundtree and Cynthia Clay are indicated for multiple allegations of abuse and neglect.

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