# **Child Fatality Summary**

Child's Name: Christopher Camejo County: Citrus

**Report Number: 2014-321620** 

**Family Composition Chart** 

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Christopher Camejo	2 years old	Child Victim
	1 year old	Sibling
	5 years old	Sibling
Claudia Scarbrough	31 years old	Mother
Christopher Camejo	29 years old	Father
Jaoquin Camejo	60 years old	Paternal Grandfather
Kimberly Fisher	38 years old	Paternal Grandfather's Paramour

# **Circumstances Surrounding Death**

On December 6, 2014, the two-year-old child was found deceased at the home after having been mauled by at least four adult Rottweiler dogs.

According to the family, the following information was provided.

On the afternoon of December 6<sup>th</sup>, the grandfather's paramour, Kimberly Fisher was reportedly on top of the roof using a blower to get the leaves off their roof. At the time, the mother, Claudia was inside vacuuming, and the father was also inside the home. Christopher and were outside and was inside the home. The grandfather, Jaoquin Camejo was out on his boat fishing at the time.

Neighbors Brandy J., her paramour, Bryan H and Michael (reside in one household), were contacted during the course of the investigation. At approximately 3:50 p.m., Brandy J. advised that she heard a child scream. The neighbor thought it was her kids, she checked on them, and they were fine. The neighbor did not think anything of it because screaming was a normal thing for the Camejo family.

Approximately a half hour later went over to Brandy's house and asked them if they seen brother Christopher. Brandy advised they had not and told her to go back to house. Bryan walked around their own house to ask their kids if they had seen Christopher and their kids said no they had not. At that time the adults at the Camejo household came outside screaming to call 911, so Bryan called 911 at 4:19 p.m.

Christopher was found in the backyard by Kimberly and he was surrounded by the paternal grandfather's dogs, four Rottweiler's and one Pekinese.

911 received two calls one at 4:19 p.m. by Bryan (neighbor) and another one at 4:20 p.m. by Kimberly.

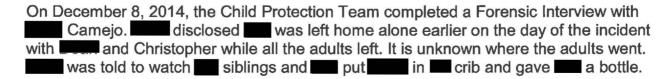
Emergency Medical Services arrived at 4:30 p.m. and Christopher Camejo was pronounced deceased on scene at 4:32 p.m.

The mother and the father drug screened and tested positive for Methamphetamines, Amphetamines, Oxycodone, Opiates, and Benzodiazepines. Jaoquin and Kimberly refused to submit to drug screens. The mother, father and Kimberly all appeared under the influence to law enforcement, the Child Protective Investigator, the Dependency Case Manager, and the Dependency Case Manager Supervisor upon responding to the scene. The mother admitted to having taken two Percosets she had obtained from a friend on the day of the incident. The mother later admitted to having done Methamphetamine on the day of the incident. The mother then recanted and stated she had not done Methamphetamine but had only smoked marijuana. The father was slurring his speech and was swaying back and forth while taking his drug screen.

Jaoquin returned to the home as Emergency Medical Services was arriving and before Law Enforcement arrived. The detective indicated that Kimberly received a call from Jaoquin prior to his return to the home asking her to make him a sandwich, which is why she came down off the roof.

The neighbors, Brandy, Bryan and Michael also reported the families dogs were aggressive and had gone after their five year old child (specific date regarding this incident is unknown) and this was reported to the grandfather. There was an incident a week and a half prior to the death where Michael was cornered in his garage by three of the Rottweiler's. He fired a round from his pistol into the ground; however, the dogs did not get scared away. Rather they just became more aggressive. The father and grandfather heard the shot, came outside, and called the dogs off. It is unknown if the neighbors called Animal Control. The neighbors advised law enforcement that they have had numerous problems with the dogs, having been chased into their residence several times by the dogs and feared for their safety and safety of their children.

The same neighbors also reported constant drug traffic at the home with the smell of marijuana and meth coming from the home as well. They have seen adults outside talking to themselves and stumbling frequently. Another neighbor also informed law enforcement of the concerns with the dogs, always running loose and trying to attack him.



also disclosed that when Kimberly went out to blow the leaves off the roof she left the back door open. This was how Christopher got out of the house to the backyard where the dogs were.

On February 6, 2015, the investigation was closed with:

- Verified Findings of Death and Inadequate Supervision as to Christopher Camejo, with Claudia Scarbrough and Christopher Camejo as the caregiver's responsible.
- Verified Findings of Substance Misuse Illicit Drugs as to Christopher Camejo, and and Christopher Camejo as the caregiver's responsible.
- Verified Findings of Threatened Harm as to and and with Claudia Scarbrough and Christopher Camejo as the caregiver's responsible.

The Citrus County Sheriff's Office investigated the death of Christopher Camejo. 14-00166594. On December 6, 2014, the father was arrested and charged with Violating a Protective Injunction. On December 22, 2014, Christopher Camejo and Claudia Scarbrough were arrested and charged with Child Neglect with Great Bodily Harm and Murder Perpetrated Without Any Design To Effect Death. At the time of closure the prosecution is ongoing.

After the child's death, Animal Control took 4 Rottweilers and 1 Pekinese into custody. Four or five Rottweiler puppies remained in the home.



According to the calls for service to the home address provided by the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, law enforcement responded to the home on five different occasions in 2014 reason documented as "animal". Details pertaining to these calls are unknown.

On December 7, 2014, District Five Deputy Chief Medical Examiner Wendy Lavezzi, M.D., performed an autopsy of Christopher Camejo. ME# 2014-1337.

# Autopsy Findings:

- 1. Multiple lacerations, abrasions, and bruises of head, neck, chest, back, abdomen, buttocks, genitalia, and extremities
  - a. Tracheal and esophageal lacerations
  - b. Cervical spinal fractures (2)
  - c. Lacerations of left kidney, spleen and pancreas
- 2. Cerebral edema
- 3. Organ pallor

Cause of Death: Multiple Blunt Force Injuries due to Dog Mauling

Manner of Death: Accident

# Other Children in the Family:

were sheltered after Christopher's death and as of closure of the investigation they are still placed in foster care. Ongoing services are being provided by Kids Central, Inc.

The family had open In Home Non-Judicial Services with The Centers/Kids Central, Inc. at the time of Christopher's death; services had been open from April 17, 2014.

# **Summary of Prior Agency Involvement with Family**

Please see the special report completed by the Critical Incident Rapid Response team for additional information regarding the family's previous child welfare involvement.

Central Region Child Fatality Prevention Specialist Kirby Morgan

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Central Region Family Safety Program Manager Traci Klinkbeil

Date