# **Child Fatality Summary**

Child's Name: Zoe Todt County: Osceola

Child's Name: Tyler Todt

Child's Name: Aleksander Todt

**Date of Birth:** 07/23/2015 **Date of Death:** 01/13/2020

**Date of Birth:** 12/30/2008 **Date of Birth:** 09/26/2006

**Report Number: 2020-016608** 

### **Family Composition Chart**

Name	Age at Time of the Incident	Relationship with Deceased Child
Zoe Todt	4 years old	Child Victim (deceased)
Tyler Todt	11 years old	Child Victim (deceased)
Aleksander "Alek" Todt	13 years old	Child Victim (deceased)
Megan Todt	42 years old	Mother (deceased)
Anthony Todt	44 years old	Father

### **Circumstances Surrounding Death**

On January 13, 2020, the 4, 11, and 13-year-old children, along with their mother, were found deceased in the family home.

According to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, the following information was provided.

On December 29, 2019, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office received a request to complete a well-being check on the Todts' home from a family member in Connecticut. The family was concerned because they were told that the Todts had the flu and they had not heard from them for weeks. Deputies checked out the home, but nothing suspicious was noted. There was no odor or suspicious activity reported by neighbors and the blinds of the home were closed. No one answered the door and the Todt family was known to travel often. Several more attempts to reach out to Anthony Todt were made prior to January 13, 2020.

On January 13, 2020, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office responded to the home to assist federal agents in serving an arrest warrant for the father for crimes out of Connecticut. A safety check of the home was completed, and the three children, the mother, and the family dog were found deceased. The time of death is 9:37 a.m.

The father, Anthony Todt, was interviewed by Osceola County Sheriff's Office Detectives at Advent Health Hospital and his statement is summarized as follows: "Anthony last consumed Benadryl on January 11, 2020 and was not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol. Anthony disclosed that himself and his wife, Megan, had been planning for months to kill their children, and then kill each other in a suicide pact. They all had to die together in order to be with each other in the next life. Anthony admitted to killing his three children, thirteen-year-old Alek Todt, eleven-year-old Tyler Todt, and four-year-old Zoe Todt. Anthony used a knife and stabbed the boys in the abdomen, then suffocated them, one at a time in separate bedrooms. He could not remember if he stabbed Zoe but knew he suffocated her on her bed. Once the children were deceased, Megan used a knife and stabbed herself in the abdomen twice. After a few hours, Megan took grape Tylenol PM and once she was rested, Anthony suffocated Megan until she died.

Anthony waited for all the bodies who were still all in separate rooms to come out of rigor mortis before moving the bodies. Once the bodies were out of rigor mortis, Anthony moved the bodies to the master bedroom so they could all be together as a family. He placed the boys on mattresses next to his bed so they would be comfortable. He placed his daughter's body wrapped in a sheet at the foot of his bed. Prior to killing Megan, he suffocated the family dog so it could also be with the family in the afterlife. He placed the dog's body in its bed near the boys on the ground. Anthony attempted to take his own life after killing Megan but failed claiming he 'chickened out.' Anthony could not remember exactly when he killed his children but remembered watching college football the following day. The children were killed in the nighttime, and Megan was killed the following day. Anthony estimated that these events took place on a Friday and possibly before Christmas 2019, but he could not confirm. He claimed sole responsibility for the death of his family and reiterated the premeditation fashion of these murders. He and Megan began planning this suicide pact back in June or July 2019 in an effort for the entire family to be together in 'the afterlife'. All conversations were recorded and post Miranda."

The Osceola County Sheriff's Office investigated the deaths Zoe, Tyler, Aleksander, and Megan Todt (201004299). The Detective's believe is that the deaths occurred in late December 2019. On January 15, 2019, Anthony Todt was charged with four counts of Premeditated First-Degree Murder and one count of Animal Cruelty. On February 1, 2020, Anthony Todt was charged with four counts of Murder with a Depraved Mind. The father pled not guilty on January 30, 2020, waived arraignment, the trial is scheduled for April 27, 2020, and the prosecution is ongoing.

On January 14, 2020, District Nine Medical Examiner Jennifer Nara, M.D., completed an autopsy of Zoe Todt. ME# 20-25-00099.

Cause of Death: Homicidal Violence of Unspecified Means in Association with Diphenhydramine Toxicity

Manner of Death: Homicide

### Autopsy Findings:

- I. Diphenhydramine toxicity
- II. No evidence of trauma
- III. Early putrefactive decomposition

On January 14, 2020, District Nine Medical Examiner Jennifer Nara, M.D., completed an autopsy of Tyler Todt. ME# 20-25-00098.

Cause of Death: Homicidal Violence of Unspecified Means in Association with Diphenhydramine Toxicity

Manner of Death: Homicide

### Autopsy Findings:

- I. Stab wound of abdomen:
  - a. Injury of large intestine
  - b. No hemorrhage
- II. Diphenhydramine toxicity
- III. Early putrefactive decomposition

On January 14, 2020, District Nine Medical Examiner Jennifer Nara, M.D., completed an autopsy of Aleksander Todt. ME# 20-25-00097.

Cause of Death: Homicidal Violence of Unspecified Means in Association with Diphenhydramine Toxicity

Manner of Death: Homicide

#### Autopsy Findings:

- I. Stab wound of abdomen:
  - a. Injury of left 8<sup>th</sup> rib
  - b. No injury to small and large intestines
  - c. No blood in abdomen
- II. Diphenhydramine toxicity
- III. Early putrefactive decomposition

On January 14, 2020, District Nine Medical Examiner Jennifer Nara, M.D., completed an autopsy of Megan Todt. ME# 20-25-00096.

Cause of Death: Homicidal Violence of Unspecified Means in Association with Diphenhydramine Toxicity

Manner of Death: Homicide

### Autopsy Findings:

- I. Stab wounds of abdomen:
  - a. Hemoperitoneum, 100-200 ml
  - b. Sharp force injury of mesenteric fat
- II. Diphenhydramine toxicity
- III. Early putrefactive decomposition

On April 9, 2020, the Department of Children and Families' investigation was closed with:

- Verified Findings of Death and Physical Injury as to Zoe, Tyler, and Aleksander Todt, with Anthony Todt as the caregiver responsible.
- Not Substantiated Findings of Asphyxiation as to Zoe, Tyler, and Aleksander Todt.
- No Indicators of Household Violence Threatens Child to Zoe, Tyler, and Aleksander Todt.

### Other Children in the Family:

The father is the only surviving family member and he is incarcerated.

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

The family did not have any current involvement.

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

The family does not have any prior abuse history in Florida or Connecticut.

	4/30/2020
Central Region Child Fatality Prevention Specialist Kirby Morgan	Date
1	4/30/20
Central Region Family Safety Program Manager John Hammett	Date