

# Xavier Boyd

## 6 Months Old

Born *August 6, 2010*  
Died *February 10, 2011*  
County *Okaloosa*

Cause of Death *Blunt impact of head*  
Manner of Death *Homicide*

### **His story**

Twice in 2010, caseworkers at DCF were told that Xavier's mother, Adrienne Crowder, was abusing drugs and getting into violent arguments with family members. Both times, DCF asked Crowder to sign safety plans promising to avoid drugs and violence.

After the second hotline report, Crowder was encouraged to accept "family preservation" services from the state, such as drug treatment and parenting classes. But Crowder, a DCF assessment said, did not appear to be interested in help. She waited weeks before signing up, a report said, and even then was uncooperative.

DCF lawyers said they lacked the authority to act on Xavier's behalf, and failed to file a petition on his behalf. The inaction proved to be fatal.

On Feb. 10, 2011, Crowder's boyfriend, Charles Colvin, who allegedly had a history of violence and drug abuse, beat and shook Xavier to death, police said. Colvin then became a fugitive. He ultimately was arrested in Alabama and charged with homicide by the Fort Walton Police Department. A DCF summary of the case said Crowder's ability to protect her child was "questionable given her history of using drugs and getting involved with men who also have drug and domestic-violence histories."