

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER**  
11 Shuttle Rd., Farmington, CT 06032-1939  
Telephone: (860) 679-3980 Fax: (860) 679-1257



**OCME Press Release**  
**COVID-19 Positive Infant**  
**7/17/20**

The cause of death of the 6-1/2 week infant who tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, has been completed. The death has been certified as: Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (unsafe sleep in bassinette with soft bedding, novel coronavirus (covid-19) respiratory infection).

Infants may die from unexplained causes (e.g., SIDS) or from compromised sleeping conditions. Therefore, when there is no definitive cause of death at autopsy, these deaths are typically certified as "Undetermined" or "Sudden Unexpected/Unexplained Death in Infancy." When there are intrinsic and/or extrinsic risk factors in such a death, the cause is certified as above and the risk factors are listed parenthetically.

Lung tissue was sent to the CDC for additional testing and they confirmed the COVID-19 infection. There currently is limited medical information on how COVID-19 infection affects infants. Therefore, the contributory role of COVID-19 infection remains unclear as the typical microscopic lung findings currently described in adult COVID-19 infections were not seen.