



Information for Release	AMENDED	9/25/2014
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Date of the notification to DCS: 4/26/2014

Child Fatality

Date of fatality or near fatality: 5/1/2014

Child's name: Amelise Telles-Lopez

Age at time of incident: 3 years old

Alleged perpetrator(s) name and age:

Alberto Robles – age 22

Veronica Telles – age 26

City, town or general location of residence of the child and alleged perpetrator(s):

Tucson, AZ

Circumstances of the fatality or near fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:

On April 26, 2014, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 3-year-old Amelise Telles-Lopez who had been hospitalized that day with an anoxic brain injury. The injury was reported to have occurred while she was being cared for by Alberto Robles, the live-in boyfriend of the child's mother, Veronica Telles. According to the report, Mr. Robles said he left Amelise in the tub with the water running and stepped out for a couple minutes. Upon return, he found her face down in the tub and stated she must have fallen. Emergency services were not contacted until approximately 47 minutes after the incident and Mr. Robles was arrested for failure to render aid. Amelise did not recover and died on May 1, 2014. On August 19, 2014, a grand jury charged Alberto Robles with child abuse and first degree murder. Veronica Telles was charged with child abuse.

Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian*:

DCS has received three prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Amelise Telles-Lopez by Veronica Telles and/or Alberto Robles.

On February 19, 2013, a report was received alleging neglect of Amelise by Veronica Telles. Pima County Sheriff's Office had responded to a call of a wandering child in an apartment complex. Amelise, age two at the time, had already been retrieved by her mother by the time law enforcement responded. It was noted that this was the second call received this week about Amelise being found alone outside the home. Law enforcement observed the home and saw that the family was in the process of packing to move. **This report was initially dispositioned as "Not Investigated" and was assigned by the Child Advocate Response Examination Team (CARE Team) on December 11, 2013.** An investigation was initiated and the case remained open when the next report was received.



On March 30, 2014, two separate reports were received:

The first report alleged physical abuse to Amelise by Veronica Telles and Alberto Robles. The caller stated that Amelise had been observed with minor injuries approximately one week ago, and was observed today to have a scratch on her forehead with some bruising. She was also observed to have light bruising around her eye that appeared to be fading.

The second report alleged neglect of Amelise by Veronica Telles. The caller stated that in addition to the concerns about recent physical injury to Amelise, Ms. Telles has frequently used Benadryl liquid to address Amelise's allergy issues. It was noted that this medication is not prescribed to Amelise and Ms. Telles is giving it to her at inappropriately higher dosages.

The three reports were investigated and unsubstantiated. The family was provided with information on available community resources.

1. Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:

The Department of Child Safety, in conjunction with the Office of Child Welfare Investigation, conducted a joint investigation with the Tucson Police Department.

2. Actions taken regarding the child and/or other children in the home:

There were no other children in the home.

3. Whether the agency is or intends to provide direct services or service referrals to the family:

No services were provided to the family.

*Posted information provides whether there have been reports, or any current or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).

*Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.

Information, if any, regarding the child and other family or household members, not specifically related to the fatality or near fatality, is not posted on the website. This also applies to information, if any, regarding the alleged perpetrator(s) and other family or household members.