

Information for Release

11/8/2011

**Date of the notification to CPS:** 6/22/2011

**Near Fatality**

**The date the child suffered the near fatality:** 6/21/2011

**Child's name:** Andrea

**Age at time of incident:** 2 Months

**Perpetrator(s):** Donna Palmer, 22; Raymond Muro, 24.

**Age:** See above

**City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s):** At the time of the incident, the child and perpetrators were living in Mesa..

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

On June 22, 2011, Andrea was transported by EMS and admitted to the hospital. She was unconscious, unresponsive and covered in blood. It is unknown where the blood came from. Paramedics reported the house reeked of marijuana smell. Donna Palmer neglected her child, Andrea, when she left the child awake propped on the couch unattended in the apartment for a reported time period of 10 minutes and came back to find the child unresponsive in a pool of her own blood. This was a near fatal event for the child and could have led to her death. Additionally, Donna tested positive for marijuana. The father, Raymond Muro, is Andrea's primary caretaker and he too neglected Andrea by failing to protect her by leaving her in mother's care, leading to this near fatal event.

**B. Whether CPS 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\* :**

CPS received one prior report alleging abuse or neglect of Andrea by Donna Palmer. In April 2011, Donna Palmer gave birth to Andrea who tested positive for marijuana. Family Preservation services were offered, but declined. A list of community resources was provided. The allegations were substantiated.

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

CPS jointly investigated the allegations with the Mesa Police Department.

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

Following a child safety assessment, Andrea and her sibling were placed in a licensed foster home.

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

The children and family are being provided intensive out-of-home services, including intensive parent aide services, supervised visitation and substance abuse services.

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\*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).

Information, if any, regarding other family or household members and the child or the alleged perpetrator is not posted on the Web site. Calls to the Child Abuse Hotline that do not meet the criteria of a report because they do not contain allegations of abuse or neglect (or because there is no information provided to locate the child or family) are not posted.