

<b>Information for Release</b>		10/30/2013
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**Date of the notification to CPS:** 10/13/2013

**Fatality**

**The date the child suffered the fatality:** 10/13/2013

**Child's name:** Betzy Rodriguez-Centeno

**Age at time of incident:** 4 Years

**Perpetrator(s):** Melissa Centeno abd Sergio Ortiz

**Age:** Ages 19 and 22

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

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

On October 13, 2013, Phoenix Police responded to a call regarding a child not breathing. When the police arrived, the stepfather, Sergio Ortiz was performing CPR on Betzy and the mother, Melissa Centeno was on the phone crying. Betzy was taken to the hospital and was pronounced dead. There was a large hematoma on her right temple, purple and blue bruising was on the front and back of her neck, a purple bruise across her hairline, and five circle marks on her chin. Sergio Ortiz and Melissa Centeno were arrested and charged with child abuse and murder.

**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\* :**

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) has received no prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Betzy Rodriguez-Centeno by Melissa Centeno or Sergio Ortiz.

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

The Office of Child Welfare Investigations (OCWI), in conjunction with Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) is conducting a joint investigation with the Phoenix Police Department.

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

The sibling in the home was removed and placed in foster care.

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

Services will be determined following the outcome of the investigation.

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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.