



Information for Release		7/31/2014
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Date of the notification to DCS: 11/19/2013

Fatality

Date of fatality or near fatality: 11/19/2013

Child's name: Brett Roberds

Age at time of incident: 9 years old

Alleged perpetrator(s) name and age:

Jessica Roberds – age 36

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

Queen Creek, AZ

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

On November 19, 2013, Jessica Roberds, mother to 9-year-old Brett Roberds, neglected to ensure that he was properly restrained in the vehicle she was driving. A rollover accident occurred and Brett was ejected from the vehicle resulting in his death.

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*:

The Department of Child Safety has received two prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Brett Roberds by Jessica Roberds.

On November 7, 2007, a report was made alleging neglect due to the conditions of the home and the mother's lack of follow through on obtaining early intervention and developmental services for Brett. This report was investigated and the allegations were unsubstantiated. The family was provided with information on available community resources.

On September 15, 2012, a report was made regarding concerns of Brett having a broken arm and providing inconsistent explanations of how it occurred. The report was investigated and the allegations were 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 conducted a joint investigation with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the siblings were placed with relatives. They were later reunified with their mother.

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



Arizona Department of Child Safety

Janice K. Brewer
Governor

Charles Flanagan
Director

The family was provided with services including counseling and intensive in-home services.

*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.