



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>10/8/15</b>
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**Amendments to the information originally posted on 1/23/15 are displayed below in red.**

**1. Victim:** Amelia Gutierrez – 16-month-old female

**2. Date of notification to DCS:** 1/13/15

**3. Date of fatality:** 1/15/15

**4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:**

Adrian Moreno – 1/16/15

Starlene McGowan – 10/2/15

**5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Maricopa County – Phoenix, AZ

**6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Adrian Moreno – age 26 – Phoenix, AZ

Starlene McGowan – age 22, Phoenix, AZ

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

On January 13, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 16-month-old Amelia Gutierrez who had been transported to the hospital with severe head and internal injuries. The injuries were determined to be non-accidental and resulted in Amelia's death on January 15, 2015. Amelia had been in the care of her mother's boyfriend, Adrian Moreno, when the injuries occurred and he has since been arrested and charged with first degree murder and child abuse. **The Department also determined that the child's mother, Starlene McGowan, failed to protect Amelia by leaving her in the care of Adrian Moreno and failing to seek medical treatment for the child's obvious injuries.**

**8. Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the current alleged perpetrator(s)\*\*:**

DCS has received no prior reports involving Amelia Gutierrez or Starlene McGowan.

The Department has received the following prior reports involving Adrian Moreno:

On February 4, 2009, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by the child's mother and her unidentified boyfriend. The investigation later determined the boyfriend to be Adrian Moreno. The investigation was in progress when a new report was received. The allegation was later unsubstantiated as to the unidentified perpetrator.

On February 10, 2009, a report was received alleging physical abuse to the same child by the unidentified boyfriend to the child's mother. The investigation determined the boyfriend to be Adrian Moreno. The allegation was substantiated as to Adrian Moreno and the case was closed September 9, 2009.

On September 3, 2010, a report was received alleging physical abuse to the same child by an unidentified perpetrator. The investigation determined the perpetrator to be Adrian Moreno and



the allegation of physical abuse to the child was substantiated. The investigation also resulted in an additional allegation of neglect to Adrian Moreno's biological child which was substantiated. The case was closed January 20, 2012.

**9. Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality:**

A joint investigation was conducted with the Phoenix Police Department.

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

There were no other children in the home.

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

No services were provided by the Department.

\*The determination that a fatality or near fatality is the result of abuse, abandonment or neglect is based one or more of the following criteria: (1) The perpetrator(s) arrest related to the incident, (2) Substantiated finding(s) linking the alleged perpetrator(s) action(s) to the fatality or near fatality and/or (3) Results of the Medical Examiner's report.

\*\* Information released after July 3, 2015 provides reports, or any current or past cases, of abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the alleged perpetrator pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807.01(A)(1)(e).  
Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.