



Table with 3 columns: Preliminary Report, Fatality, 02/21/18

Amendments to the information originally posted on 06/13/17 are displayed below in red.

1. Victim: Mary Diaz – five month old-female

2. Date of notification to DCS: 06/09/17

3. Date of fatality: 06/09/17

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

Amber Sagarnaga-06/10/17

Phillip Diaz-01/28/18

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

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

Amber Sagarnaga-age 23-Glendale

Phillip Diaz-age 27-Glendale

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

On June 9, 2017, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding five month old, Mary Diaz, who did not have a heartbeat upon arrival to the hospital. On June 10, 2017, the victim’s mother, Amber Sagarnaga, was arrested for second degree murder. On January 28, 2018, the Maricopa County Juvenile Court found through a severance proceeding that the father, Phillip Diaz, failed to protect Mary from the mother’s neglect and abuse that resulted in the child’s death.

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 the following prior reports involving Amber Sagarnaga:

On October 26, 2015, the Department received a report alleging neglect of the victim’s sibling by her mother, Amber Sagarnaga. The Department substantiated the allegation of neglect. The Department provided the family with In-home services and information on services available in the community. The Department closed the case on September 20, 2016.

DCS has received the following report involving Amber Sagarnaga and Mary Diaz:

On December 16, 2016, the Department received a report alleging neglect of the victim by her mother, Amber Sagarnaga. The Department unsubstantiated the allegation of neglect. The family was provided with information on services available in the community. The Department closed the case on December 23, 2016.

DCS received no prior reports involving Phillip Diaz as a perpetrator.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Glendale Police Department.

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



Following an assessment of child safety, the siblings were removed and placed in a licensed foster home.

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

The Department provided services to the family including services to the other children involved.

\*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.