

Mike Faust, Director Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

Preliminary Report	Fatality	1/29/2021
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1. Victim: Baby Girl Starr – newborn female

2. Date of notification to DCS: 5/25/20

**3. Date of fatality:** 5/25/20

4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*: 7/17/20

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Gila County, AZ

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

Tiffany Starr – age 30 – Gila County, AZ Mark Mikles – age 44– Gila County, AZ

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

On May 25, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding newborn Baby Girl Starr who was taken to the hospital hours after a homebirth and passed away. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Gila County Superior Court on May 28, 2020, regarding the child's siblings. On July 17, 2020, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Tiffany Starr and Mark Mikles.

## 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 received the following prior reports involving Tiffany Starr:

On October 4, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Tiffany Starr. The child was removed and a dependency petition was filed. The allegation was substantiated after the court granted the dependency as to the mother.

On December 29, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Tiffany Starr. The mother had given birth to a child while her other child remained in foster care. The newborn was removed and placed in foster care. The allegation was substantiated after the court granted the dependency as to the mother.

DCS received no prior reports involving Mr. Mikles and/or Baby Girl Starr.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Globe Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the other children in the home were placed in foster care.



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

The Department is providing services to the family.

\*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.