



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

Preliminary Report	Fatality	1/9/2020
---------------------------	-----------------	-----------------

- 1. Victim:** Eli Steele – 2-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 12/23/19
- 3. Date of fatality:** 12/23/19
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 12/27/19
- 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:**

Rickey Lockwood – age 36 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On December 23, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 2-year-old Eli Steele. Eli was taken to the hospital after sustaining injuries while in the care of Rickey Lockwood. The child died and Mr. Lockwood was arrested. Mr. Lockwood was charged with first degree murder and child abuse on December 27, 2019.

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 no prior reports involving Mr. Lockwood and/or Eli Steele.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Phoenix Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the other two children residing in the home were placed under safety plans. The safety plans were later lifted after the mothers of the children were assessed as safe.

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

The Department is not 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.