



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>6/16/16</b>
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- 1. Victim:** Jason Hester – 6-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 6/22/15
- 3. Date of fatality:** 6/22/15
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 6/6/16
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Coconino County, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Lillian Hester – age 37 – Coconino County, AZ  
Jason Conlee – age 36 – Coconino County, AZ

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

On June 22, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 6-year-old Jason Hester who was found unresponsive in the home where he lived with his aunt, Lillian Hester and her boyfriend, Jason Conlee. Jason was transported to the Flagstaff Medical Center where he was pronounced deceased. According to the Coconino County Office of the Medical Examiner, Jason weighed only 29 pounds and showed evidence of neglect including dehydration and numerous bruises and abrasions in various stages of healing. On June 6, 2016, Lillian Hester was charged with child abuse and first-degree murder. Jason Conlee was charged with child abuse and negligent homicide.

**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 Jason Hester, Lillian Hester and/or Jason Conlee.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Coconino County Sheriff's Office.

**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.

**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.