Arizona Department of Child Safety



Douglas A. Ducey Governor

Preliminary Report	Fatality	5/25/17

1. Victim: Jose Valenzuela – 9 month old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 05/11/2017

- 3. Date of fatality: 05/14/2017
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*: 05/22/17

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Pima County – Tucson, AZ

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

Ivan Portillo Herrera – age 22 – Tucson, AZ Salma Rodriguez – age 25 – Tucson, AZ

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

On May 11, 2017, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 9 month old male, Jose Valenzuela, who had been transported to the hospital. A CT scan revealed a subdural hematoma and a large simple skull fracture to the right side of his head. The injuries were determined to be non-accidental and resulted in Jose's death on May 15, 2017. The child's mother, Salma Rodriguez, and her boyfriend, Ivan Portillo Herrera, were arrested for felony child abuse on May 12, 2017. On May 22, 2017, both were indicted for first degree murder and child abuse.

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 Jose Valenzuela.

DCS has received no prior reports involving Ivan Portillo Herrera as an alleged perpetrator.

DCS has received the following prior report involving Salma Rodriguez as an alleged perpetrator:

On November 22, 2011, a report was received alleging abuse to the one of the child's siblings by Salma Rodriguez. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The family was provided with information on services available in the community and the case was closed on March 18, 2012.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Tucson 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 with relatives.

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 including services to support the other children involved.



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Gregory McKay Director

*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.