



Preliminary Report	Fatality	09/23/2020
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1. Victim: Mateo Rodriguez aka Negreros – 5-month-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 3/16/19

3. Date of fatality: 3/16/19

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

Steve Negreros – 1/29/20

Leslie Rodriguez – 2/21/20

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:

Steve Negreros – age 39 – Phoenix, AZ

Leslie Rodriguez – age 27 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On March 16, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 5-month-old Mateo who was found unresponsive in his home. The child was taken to the hospital and pronounced deceased. An autopsy was conducted and determined methamphetamine exposure contributed to the child's cause of death. On January 29, 2020 and February 21, 2020, the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect against both parents, Steve Negreros and Leslie Rodriguez.

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 Mateo, Steve Negreros, and/or Leslie Rodriguez:

On August 17, 2013, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to a child by Steve Negreros and Leslie Rodriguez. The report was unsubstantiated as there was no evidence of the allegations and the case was closed. The family was offered community resources and daycare.

On March 1, 2017, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to two children by Steve Negreros and Leslie Rodriguez. The report was unsubstantiated and the case was closed. The family was referred for counseling services.

On March 7, 2017, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to a child by Leslie Rodriguez. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On June 7, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to two children by Steve Negreros and Leslie Rodriguez. The family was unable to be located and the case was closed.

On March 19, 2018, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to multiple children by Steve Negreros and Leslie Rodriguez. The family was unable to be located and the case was closed.



On February 7, 2019, a report was received alleging neglect to Mateo by his mother, Leslie Rodriguez. The investigation assessed the family as safe and the case remained open while the investigation continued when the fatality report was received.

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

A joint investigation was 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 children in the home were removed and 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.

*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.