Arizona Department of Child Safety



Preliminary Report	Fatality	8/4/16
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1. Victim: Rackhem Wall – 8-year-old – male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 9/10/15

- **3. Date of fatality:** 9/9/15
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*: 7/25/16

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Maricopa County – Mesa, AZ

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

Colleen Wall - age 43 - Mesa, AZ

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

On September 10, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding Rackhem Wall being involved in a car accident on September 9, 2015. Rackhem died on September 10, 2015 from his injuries. The Department substantiated the allegation of neglect as to Rackhem's mother, Colleen Wall, when she became distracted while driving, ran a red light and caused a collision which resulted in Rackhem's death.

# 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 the following prior reports involving Colleen Wall and/or Rackhem Wall:

On November 23, 1999, a report was received alleging neglect to two of Rackhem's older siblings by Colleen Wall and their father. The family participated in Family Builders services offered by the Department and the case was closed.

On May 23, 2007, a report was received alleging neglect to two of Rackhem's older siblings by Colleen Wall. The family participated in Family Preservation services offered by the Department. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On July 10, 2013, a report was received alleging neglect to Rackhem and a sibling by Colleen Wall and their father. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. The allegations were substantiated. The family participated in services, the dependency was dismissed and the case was closed.

On May 23, 2014, a report was received alleging physical abuse to Rackhem by his father. The family was provided with services available in the community. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The case remained open pending documentation when the subsequent report was received.

On May 27, 2014, a report was received alleging neglect to Rackhem and his sibling by Colleen Wall and their father. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. The allegations were substantiated as to Colleen Wall and unsubstantiated as to their father. The case remained open and the family was participating in services when the subsequent report was received.



**Douglas A. Ducey** Governor Arizona Department of Child Safety

Gregory McKay Director

On May 22, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to Rackhem's sibling by Colleen Wall. The allegation was substantiated and the family continued to participate in services. The case was open and the Department was providing services to the family when the fatality report was received.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

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

There were no other children in the home.

# **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.