



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>6/18/20</b>
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- 1. Victim:** Willa Rawlings 6-year-old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 12/04/19
- 3. Date of fatality:** 11/29/19
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 04/01/20
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Navajo County- Lakeside, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Daniel Rawlings- age 35 – Lakeside, AZ  
Lacey Rawlings – age 32 – Lakeside, AZ

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

On December 4, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the fatality of siblings Colby and Willa Rawlings. The family drove through a flooded road when their car became submerged with water and the children were washed away. An autopsy of Willa Rawlings occurred on December 15, 2019, the death was ruled an accident and the cause of death was determined to be asphyxia due to drowning with a contributing factor of hypothermia. On April 1, 2020, the father, Daniel Rawlings, was charged with multiple counts of manslaughter and child abuse. On April 1, 2020, the mother, Lacey Rawlings was charged with multiple counts of 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 received no prior reports involving the parents Daniel and Lacey Rawlings, nor the child, Willa Rawlings.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Gila County Sheriff’s Office.

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

The other children in the home were found to be safe in the care of their parents.

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

No services were provided by the Department.

\*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.



**ARIZONA**  
DEPARTMENT  
*of* CHILD SAFETY

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Mike Faust, Director  
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

\*\* 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.