



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>12/1/16</b>
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- 1. Victim:** Jorgan Tait – 8-month-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 6/23/16
- 3. Date of fatality:** 6/30/16
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 11/22/16
- 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:**

Kirsten Berry – age 27 – Tucson, AZ

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

On June 23, 2016, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 8-month-old Jorgan Tait who was unresponsive after being found at home wedged between a mattress and a wall. Jorgan was transported to a hospital where he remained unresponsive until his death on June 30, 2016. The investigation determined that Jorgan had been in the care of his biological mother, Kirsten Berry, who had placed him to sleep on her bed and left him unsupervised for several hours. The allegation of neglect pertaining to Kirsten Berry has been substantiated due to the lack of supervision and the unsafe sleeping circumstances that resulted in Jorgan’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 Kirsten Berry and/or Jorgan Tait:

On May 7, 2006, a report was received alleging neglect to a sibling by Kirsten Berry and the sibling’s father. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed. The family declined services offered by the Department and was provided with information on community resources.

On November 5, 2013, a report was received alleging neglect to Jorgan’s siblings by their mother, Kirsten Berry, and their father. The investigation resulted in the Department filing a dependency petition with the Pima County Juvenile Court. The allegations as to the parents were substantiated and the Department was providing the family with services when a subsequent report was received.

On November 26, 2014, a report was received alleging neglect to Jorgan’s siblings by their mother, Kirsten Berry, and the father to one of the siblings. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Juvenile Court for one of the children and substantiated the allegations as to that child. The case remained open and the Department continued providing services to the family when a subsequent report was received.

On October 30, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to Jorgan Tait by his mother, Kirsten Berry, and his father. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Juvenile Court and substantiated the allegations. The Department continued to provide services and the case was later closed.



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

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