

Ben Henderson, Interim Director Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report Fatality 11/05/2024
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## This child was previously posted as a near-fatality on 08/10/2020.

1. Victim: Aubrielle Johnson 2-year-old female

**2. Date of notification to DCS:** 10/9/2022

**3. Date of fatality:** 10/09/2022

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

10/30/2024

**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:

Dontae Lavvone Johnson - age 32 - Phoenix, AZ

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

On October 9, 2022, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 2-year-old Aubrielle Johnson, who was found unresponsive in her placement's home. Aubrielle was removed from her parents' home on February 7, 2020, when the father, Dontae Lavvone Johnson, admitted to shaking the child on several occasions resulting in life-threatening injuries consistent with non-accidental trauma. Ultimately, the child died due to the injuries caused by her father, Dontae Lavvone Johnson, on October 9, 2022. The Department substantiated the allegations of physical abuse by the father, Dontae Lavvone Johnson. On May 24, 2024, Dontae Lavvone Johnson was convicted of two counts of child abuse and two counts of attempted child abuse. He received consecutive sentences of 17 years and 10 years along with lifetime supervised probation with domestic violence terms.

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 report involving Dontae Lavvone Johnson and the child's mother:

On December 15, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to children by their mother and father, Dontae Lavvone Johnson. The report was closed and the allegations were substantiated as to both parents.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Glendale Police Department.

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

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The other children in the home where the fatality incident occurred were found to be safe in the care of their licensed foster placements.

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

The Department provided the foster family with information on services available in the community.

<sup>\*</sup>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.

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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.