

Ben Henderson, Interim Director Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report Fatality 11/06/2024
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1. Victim: Gil Gomez – 1-month-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 06/18/2024

**3. Date of fatality:** 06/17/2024

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:

La Paz County - Ehrenberg, AZ

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

Coty Gomez – age 32 – Ehrenberg, AZ Robert Gomez – age 38 – Ehrenberg, AZ

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

On June 18, 2024, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 1-month-old, Gil Gomez, who was found approximately 11 days after he passed away in a plastic tote on the porch of the home. On June 26, 2024, Gil's parents, Coty and Robert Gomez, were charged with child abuse, abandonment or concealment of a dead body, and negligent homicide.

# 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)\*\*:

There were no prior DCS reports involving Robert Gomez as an alleged perpetrator.

DCS received the following prior report involving Coty Gomez:

On September 27, 2022, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Coty Gomez. The investigation resulted in the child being placed in foster care and a dependency petition was filed with the Yuma County Superior Court. On October 7, 2022, the courts determined the dependency would be transferred to Riverside County, California, as the family lived there and had an open dependency matter in that jurisdiction. The child was assessed as safe in California CPS custody. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the La Paz County Sheriff's Office.

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### 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:

There were no services provided by the Department.

<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.