

Preliminary Report	Fatality	04/18/2024
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1. **Victim:** Jody Jackson – 1-year-old female
2. **Date of notification to DCS:** 01/29/24
3. **Date of fatality:** 01/29/24
4. **Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 02/06/24
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:**

Natalie Tate– age 37 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On January 29, 2024, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the fatality of 1-year-old Jody Jackson, who was found unresponsive by her mother. The mother contacted emergency services who responded to the home and pronounced Jody deceased. Jody’s post mortem toxicology results returned positive for fentanyl. On February 6, 2024, the mother, Natalie Tate, was indicted on child abuse charges.

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 reports involving Jody Jackson and/or Natalie Tate:

On March 1, 2010, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by their mother, Natalie Tate. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations of physical abuse. The allegation was unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On August 29, 2020, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Natalie Tate. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegation of neglect. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on December 11, 2020.

On June 8, 2022, a report was received alleging neglect to Jody by her mother, Natalie Tate. The allegations were substantiated. The investigation assessed Jody and a sibling as safe with their mother with a safety plan in place. The family was referred for services but did not engage in the services. The case was closed on May 17, 2023.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Phoenix Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, a sibling was removed and placed in a licensed foster home.

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

The Department is providing supportive services to the sibling and will continue to assess for other services to be provided 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.