

Preliminary Report	Fatality	12/15/2023
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- 1. Victim:** Katya Iniguez-Rivas – 8-month-old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 07/08/2020
- 3. Date of fatality:** 07/08/2020
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 9/12/2023
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Yuma County – Yuma, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Ala Aracely Rivas Perez – age 27 – Yuma, AZ

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

On July 8, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 8-month-old Katya Iniguez-Rivas who was found unresponsive after being in a vehicle for approximately 6 hours. Katya was transported to the hospital, where she was pronounced deceased. The medical examiner determined Katya’s cause of death to be probable heat stroke and dehydration secondary to prolonged exposure to heat in an enclosed vehicle. On September 12, 2023, the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect by the child’s mother, Ala Aracely Rivas Perez.

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 Katya Iniguez-Rivas or the child’s father.

DCS received the following prior report involving the mother, Ala Aracely Rivas Perez:

On April 20, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Ala Aracely Rivas Perez. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The family was provided with information on services available in the community. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on May 12, 2017.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Yuma Police 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 assessed as safe in their mother's care.

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

The Department provided 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.