

<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>05/13/2024</b>
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- 1. Victim:** Michael Fontes – 2-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 01/04/23
- 3. Date of fatality:** 07/26/20
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 05/08/24
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Maricopa County – Tolleson, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Unknown Perpetrator – Unknown age- Tolleson, AZ

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

On January 4, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the fatality of 2-year-old Michael Fontes on July 26, 2020. The investigation determined the child died due to fentanyl intoxication. The alleged perpetrator is unknown.

**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 Michael Fontes.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Tolleson 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.

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

The Department offered 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.

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\*\* 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.

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P.O. Box 6030 ♦ Site Code C010-23 ♦ Phoenix, AZ 85005-6030  
Telephone (602) 255-2500