

Preliminary Report	Fatality	02/12/2024
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- 1. Victim:** Michael Smith – 17-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 05/08/23
- 3. Date of fatality:** 05/08/23
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 08/22/23
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Navajo County – Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ

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

Kelly Harris – age 45 – Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ
Robert Smith – age 44 – Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ

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

On May 8, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 17-year-old, Michael Smith being found unresponsive at his home. He was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased. On August 22, 2023, his parents, Kelly Harris and Robert Smith, were indicted on 1st degree murder and 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 report involving Kelly Harris and Robert Smith:

On April 2, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to Michael Smith by his parents Kelly Harris and Robert Smith. The allegations were unsubstantiated. There were no services provided and the case was closed on May 31, 2018.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Pinetop-Lakeside Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the other child in the home was 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; however, they declined to participate.

*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.