

David Lujan, Cabinet Executive Officer/Executive Deputy Director Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report Fatality 05/08/2024
--

1. Victim: Selma Felix – 3-year-old female

2. Date of notification to DCS: 12/02/23

3. Date of fatality: 12/02/23

4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*: 05/01/24

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Maricopa County – Phoenix, A7

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

Alyssa Felix - age 32 - Phoenix, AZ

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

On December 2, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 3-year-old female, Selma Felix, being found unresponsive after ingesting fentanyl in the home while in the care of her mother, Alyssa Felix. Selma was taken to the hospital where she was pronounced deceased. On April 16, 2024, the Maricopa County Superior Court found that the mother, Alyssa Felix, neglected the child.

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 Alyssa Felix and/or Selma Felix:

On July 14, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by Alyssa Felix. The allegations were substantiated and the family was referred for and completed services with the Department. The case was closed on January 7, 2016.

On February 26, 2020, a report was received alleging neglect to Selma Felix and her siblings by their mother, Alyssa Felix. Following an assessment of child safety, a dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court for all the children and the family was referred for services. The mother engaged in recommended services and the children were assessed as safe in her care. The dependency was dismissed on January 13, 2021, and the allegations were unsubstantiated as to Ms. Felix. The Department remained involved with the family until the cased closed in April 2021.

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

Page 2

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, the other children in the home were placed with a relative.

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

The Department is providing 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.