

Preliminary Report	Fatality	05/03/2024
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- 1. Victim:** Sa'mere Marrs – 2-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 08/02/23
- 3. Date of fatality:** 08/03/23
- 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 – El Mirage, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Alexus Marrs – age 29 – El Mirage, AZ

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

On August 2, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 2-year-old Sa'mere Marrs who drowned in the pool at home while under his mother's care. Sa'mere was transported to the hospital where he passed away on August 3, 2023. The medical examiner determined that his cause of death was an anoxic brain injury due to drowning. On April 19, 2024, the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect to Sa'mere by his mother, Alexis Marrs.

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 Alexis Marrs and/or Sa'mere Marrs.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the El Mirage 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 relatives.

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.