

Ben Henderson, Interim Director Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report Fatality 09/10/2024
--

1. Victim: Theodore Antonsen- 9-year-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 07/14/24

3. Date of fatality: 07/12/24

4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*: 09/04/24

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Pima County - Tucson, AZ

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

Joseph Antonsen - age 38 - Tucson, AZ

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

On July 14, 2024, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 9-year-old, Theodore Antonsen, who was found deceased at his home. It was reported that on July 12, 2024, Theodore was having difficulty breathing, went limp, and became unresponsive at home. The father, Joseph Antonsen, did not seek medical care for Theodore and left Theodore alone in the home until July 14, 2024, when law enforcement was contacted. On July 25, 2024, the father, Joseph Antonsen, was indicted by a Pima County Grand Jury for two counts of child abuse and manslaughter.

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 Theodore Antonsen and/or Joseph Antonsen.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Pima County Sherriff's Office.

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

There were no other children in the home.

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

There were no services provided by the Department.

Page 2

*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.