



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>02/01/2022</b>
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- 1. Victim:** Chaskah Davis Smith – 11-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 01/30/22
- 3. Date of fatality:** 01/30/22
- 4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 01/30/22
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Maricopa County – Scottsdale, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Stephanie Davis AKA Fasthorse – age 51 – Scottsdale, AZ  
Thomas Desharnais – age 33 – Scottsdale, AZ

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

On January 30, 2022, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 11-year-old Chaskah Davis Smith, who had been transported to the hospital and pronounced deceased. Upon examination, there were multiple non-accidental injuries found. The child’s maternal grandmother, Stephanie Davis, and her husband, Thomas Desharnais, were both arrested for one count of first degree murder and one count of child abuse.

**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 Stephanie Davis and Thomas Desharnais:

On March 22, 2017, a report was received alleging physical abuse to Chaskah Davis Smith by Stephanie Davis. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The family was not provided any services and the case was closed on April 14, 2017.

On May 15, 2017, a report was received alleging physical abuse to Chaskah Davis Smith by Stephanie Davis, Thomas Desharnais and another adult. The allegations were unsubstantiated. The family was provided with resources available in the community and the case was closed on July 17, 2017.

On August 31, 2017, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by Thomas Desharnais. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The family was not provided any services and the case was closed on September 18, 2017.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Scottsdale Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, a sibling was removed and placed in foster care.



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

The Department is providing supportive services to the sibling and will continue to assess for other services to be provided 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.