



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Near Fatality</b>	<i>7/22/21</i>
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- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 1-year-old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 06/19/21
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 06/19/21
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 06/20/21
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Maricopa County – Phoenix, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Alberta Begay – age 34 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On June 19, 2021, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 1-year-old female involved in a near drowning incident. The victim was transported to the hospital and determined to be in critical condition. On June 20, 2021, the mother, Alberta Begay, was arrested for reckless child abuse and endangering the life/health of a minor.

**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 the near fatality victim or the child’s mother, Alberta Begay.

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

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 under a safety plan with relatives. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was also placed under a safety plan.

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

The Department intends to provide services as the investigation continues.

\*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.