



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Near Fatality</b>	<b>11/3/21</b>
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- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 4-year-old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 6/19/21
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 6/19/21
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 6/24/21
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Cochise County – Sierra Vista, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Clifford Johnson – age 38 – Sierra Vista, 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 the death of 9-year-old Lance Aguirre after a motor vehicle accident occurred. Two other children were in the vehicle and determined to be in critical condition. It was determined the driver, Clifford Johnson, was under the influence of alcohol. On June 24, 2021, Mr. Johnson was charged with murder, endangerment, and 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)\*\*:**

There were no prior DCS reports involving the child or Clifford Johnson.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the children were assessed as being safe with their mothers.

**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.

\*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.