

Mike Faust, Director Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	6/4/2020

1. Near Fatality Victim: 2-year-old female

2. Date of notification to DCS: 11/29/19

3. Date of near fatality: 11/29/19

4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:

Angel Diaz – 12/13/19 Michelle Carlson- 3/30/20

- 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:

Angel Diaz – age 32 – Phoenix, AZ Michelle Carlson – age 32 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On November 29, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 2-year-old female who was taken to the hospital after ingesting an unknown substance. The child was given two doses of Narcan due to breathing problems and was admitted to the pediatric ICU. It was later discovered the child possibly ingested fentanyl. The child was in the care of her parents, Angel Diaz and Michelle Carlson when the incident occurred. On December 9, 2019, the Department of Child Safety filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court. On December 13, 2019, the court found through the dependency proceeding, Angel Diaz neglected the near fatality victim and her siblings. On March 30, 2020, the court found the dependency proceeding that Michelle Carlson neglected the near fatality victim and her siblings.

## 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 the near fatality victim's parents, Michelle Carlson and Angel Diaz:

On April 10, 2006, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Michelle Carlson. The investigation assessed the child as safe with their mother. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On February 15, 2012, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Michelle Carlson. The mother was provided with services within the community. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On August 15, 2012, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by their mother, Michelle Carlson. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.



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On August 2, 2016, a report was received alleging neglect to children by their mother, Michelle Carlson. The investigation assessed the children as safe with their mother. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed. The family was referred to services within the community.

On July 25, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by Michelle Carlson. The child was assessed as safe. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On August 4, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by Michelle Carlson and their father, Angel Diaz. The child was assessed as safe. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

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

A joint investigation is being 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 children were placed in kinship placements, the children have all been placed together as of March 2020.

# 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 including services to support the other children involved.

<sup>\*</sup>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.

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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.