



Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	09/14/17
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- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 2 year old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 08/13/17
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 08/13/17
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 08/17/17
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Cochise County
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Aaron Kunst – age 28 – Cochise County

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

On August 13, 2017 the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a two year old female who was being transported to the hospital with multiple injuries. Upon examination, it was determined the child was in critical condition. The child was in the care of mother’s significant other at the time of the injuries. On August 17, 2017, the mother’s significant other, Aaron Kunst, was indicted by a grand jury for 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 has received no prior reports involving Aaron Kunst.

DCS has received no prior reports involving the near fatality victim.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Benson Police Department

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

Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed in a licensed foster home. Following an assessment of child safety, the sibling in the home was placed with a parent.

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

Services will be determined pending the outcome of the investigation.

*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.