



<b>Preliminary Report</b>	<b>Near Fatality</b>	4/13/2021
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- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 1 year old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 06/18/2020
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 06/18/2020
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:** 07/30/2020
- 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:**

Kayla Horton – age 25 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On June 18, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 1-year-old female presenting to the hospital after ingesting methamphetamine, ecstasy and possibly fentanyl while in the care of her mother, Kayla Horton. The child and her sibling were taken into custody. A dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court on June 23, 2020, alleging neglect to the near fatality victim and her siblings. On July 30, 2020, the court ruled the mother, Kayla Horton, 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 report involving the mother, Kayla Horton and the child's father:

On October 06, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect by the mother, Kayla Horton and physical abuse and neglect allegations by the father to the near fatality victim and her sibling. The investigation assessed the children as safe with their mother and the allegation was unsubstantiated. The family successfully participated in in-home services provided by the Department.

**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 with a relative. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was also placed with the relative.

**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.



**ARIZONA**  
DEPARTMENT  
*of* CHILD SAFETY

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Mike Faust, Director  
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

\*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.