

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	02/21/2024
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- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 6-week-old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 4/28/2021
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 4/28/2021
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:**
5/12/2021
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Pima County – Tucson, AZ
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Odessa Cruz – age 17 – Tucson, AZ
Xavion Washington-Wilson – age 18 – Tucson, AZ

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

On April 28, 2021, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 6-week-old child who was brought to the hospital for seizure like activity. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in serious condition with severe head trauma and seizure activity. On May 12, 2021, Odessa Cruz and Xavion Washington-Wilson were indicted by Pima County grand jury with seven counts of child abuse. Odessa Cruz was convicted of child abuse on January 9, 2024, and is serving 3.5 years in prison with a lifetime of probation supervision. Xavion Washington-Wilson was convicted of child abuse on December, 22, 2023, and is serving 8 years in prison with a lifetime of probation supervision. On November 15, 2021, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court. The court terminated the parental rights of Odessa Cruz and Xavion Washington-Wilson on November 21, 2023.

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.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Tucson Police Department.

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

Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim and sibling were placed in a licensed foster home.

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

The Department provided services to the family.

*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.