

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	01/25/2023
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Amendments to the information originally posted on 01/24/22 are displayed below in red.

- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 1-year-old male
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 08/21/21
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 08/21/21
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** XX/XX/XX

Eden Rivera – 11/27/21

Joel Perez – 1/23/23

- 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:**

Eden Rivera – age 23 – Phoenix, AZ

Joel Perez – age 25 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On August 21, 2021, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 1-year-old male who was taken to the hospital after being found unresponsive at home. Upon examination, the child was determined to be critical condition due to fentanyl ingestion. Ultimately, the near fatality victim was taken into custody. On September 24, 2021, a dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court alleging neglect to the near fatality victim. On November 27, 2021, the court ruled the mother, Eden Rivera, neglected the near fatality victim. **On January 23, 2023, the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect to the near fatality victim by mother's significant other, Joel Perez.**

- 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, his mother Eden Rivera, **or Joel Perez.**

- 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:

There were no other children in the home. Following an assessment of child safety, the near fatality victim was placed with a 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.

*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.