



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

David Lujan, Director
Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	06/15/2023
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1. Near Fatality Victim: one-month-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 05/07/22

3. Date of near fatality: 05/07/22

4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:
07/21/22

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Coconino County – Ash Fork, AZ

6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:

Nathaniel Salmond – age 32 – Ash Fork, AZ
Estrella Morgan – age 20 – Ash Fork, AZ

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

On 5/07/22, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a one-month-old male who presented at the hospital in critical condition due to malnutrition. On 7/21/22 the parents, Nathaniel Salmond and Estrella Morgan, were indicted by a Coconino County 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):**

There were no prior DCS reports involving Nathaniel Salmond, Estrella Morgan, or the near fatality victim.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Coconino County Sherriff’s Office.

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

Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed in licensed foster care. There were no other children in the home.

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

Safety · Compassion · Change · Teaming · Advocacy · Engagement · Accountability · 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.