



# ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of CHILD SAFETY

David Lujan, Cabinet Executive Officer/Executive Deputy Director  
Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	02/22/2024
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**1. Near Fatality Victim:** 5-month-old male

**2. Date of notification to DCS:** 09/26/19

**3. Date of near fatality:** 9/25/19

**4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:**  
2/8/24

**5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Coconino County – Flagstaff, AZ

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

Erik Richmond – age 38 – Flagstaff, AZ

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

On September 26, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 5-month-old male who presented at the hospital with multiple injuries and was determined to be in critical condition. The injuries were determined to be inflicted trauma. The child was in the care of a legal guardian and her significant other, Erik Richmond, at the time of the injury. The Department substantiated the allegations of physical abuse against Erik Richmond on February 8, 2024.

**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 the following prior report involving the child's parents and the near fatality victim:

On April 21, 2019, a report was received alleging neglect to the child by his mother. The investigation assessed the baby as safe after guardianship with a relative was granted by the Coconino County Court on July 15, 2019. The allegation as to the mother was unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with Flagstaff 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 licensed foster care. Another child who lived part time in the legal guardian's home was assessed as safe.

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**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.