

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	10/30/2024
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1. Near Fatality Victim: 5-months-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 04/02/23

3. Date of near fatality: 04/02/23

4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:
10/23/24

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Maricopa County – Glendale, AZ

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

Seryna Teaford AKA Hazel Reeves – age 22 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On April 2, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 5-month-old male who was transported to the hospital after being found unresponsive with multiple injuries. The child had been left alone with a 12-year-old relative. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical/serious condition with non-accidental trauma. On May 1, 2023, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court. On October 24, 2023, the court found the mother, Seryna Teaford, neglected the near fatality victim.

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 Seryna Teaford:

On November 21, 2019, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by their adult sister, Seryna Teaford. The investigation assessed the child as safe with their mother and the allegation was unsubstantiated. There were no services provided to the family and the case was closed on January 2, 2020.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Glendale Police Department.

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

There were no other children in the home. Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed in an unlicensed caregiver's home. Ultimately, the caregiver was granted guardianship of the child.

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.