

Michael Wisehart, Interim Director Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report Near Fatality 03/31/2023

1. Near Fatality Victim: 3-month-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 6/23/20

3. Date of near fatality: 6/23/20

4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*: 5/5/22

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:

Vashti Rogers – age 21 – Phoenix, AZ Jimmy Nguyen – age 25 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On June 23, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 3-month-old male that was taken to the hospital with difficulty breathing. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical condition with an array of injuries and head trauma. The child had been residing with a relative under a safety plan. The safety plan was violated and the child was in the care of his parents, Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen, when the incident occurred. On May 5, 2022, the Maricopa County Superior Court found the parents abused and/or failed to protect the child from 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)**:

DCS received the following prior report involving Vashti Rogers, Jimmy Nguyen, and the near fatality victim:

On April 22, 2020, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to the child. The report alleged the child had fallen from the father's arms and had no apparent injury. When the child awoke from a nap, the child's eyes were bloodshot and was taken to the hospital. The child had multiple injuries that did not match the parent's explanation. A present danger plan was put in place to ensure the children's safety while the investigation continued. The children were removed and placed with a relative with a safety plan in place. On May 27, 2020, the Department filed a dependency with the Maricopa County Superior Court. On February 22, 2021, the Maricopa County Superior Court found the parents abused the child and the Department substantiated the allegations.

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:

Following an assessment of child safety, the other child was placed in a foster home. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was placed in the same 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.