ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of CHILD SAFETY

Michael Wisehart, Interim Director
Katie Hobbs, Governor

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	03/15/2023

1. Near Fatality Victim: One-year-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 2/4/21

3. Date of near fatality: 2/4/21

4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*: 7/15/21

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Mohave County, AZ

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

John Jones – age 29 – Mohave County, AZ
Nicole Sellers – age 24 – Mohave County, AZ

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

On February 4, 2021, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a one-year-old male who had been taken to the hospital in serious condition. Upon examination, the child had severe hypotonia and respiratory failure. The parents had not taken the child to medical appointments and were not following up on his medical needs. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Mohave County Superior Court on April 13, 2021. On July 15, 2021, the parents, John Jones and Nicole Sellers, did not contest the allegations and the Court granted the dependency petition. The Department substantiated the allegations of neglect by the parents.

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 John Jones, Nicole Sellers, and the near fatality victim:

> On September 23, 2020, a report was received alleging neglect to the child by his parents, John Jones and Nicole Sellers. The allegations were substantiated as to both parents. The case was transferred to in-home staff where the case remained open when the near fatality report was received on February 4, 2021.

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

A joint investigation was conducted with the Mohave County Sheriff's Office.

P.O. Box 6030 ♦ Site Code C010-23 ♦ Phoenix, AZ 85005-6030
Telephone (602) 255-2500

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the other child in the home was removed and placed in foster care. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was also placed in foster care.

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.

P.O. Box 6030 ♦ Site Code C010-23 ♦ Phoenix, AZ 85005-6030
Telephone (602) 255-2500