



Information for Release	AMENDED	9/8/2014
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**Date of the notification to DCS:** 8/18/2014  
**Child Fatality**

**Date of fatality or near fatality:** 9/4/2014

**Child's name:** Victoria Neal

**Age at time of incident:** 20 months

**Alleged perpetrator(s) name and age:**

Phoeteama Neal – age 28

**City, town or general location of residence of the child and alleged perpetrator(s):**

Goodyear, AZ

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

On August 18, 2014, the Department of Child Safety received a report stating that 20-month-old Victoria Neal was in extremely critical condition after a near-drowning incident. Victoria had been in the care of her mother, Phoeteama Neal, who was arrested on one count of attempted first degree murder. Victoria died from her injuries on September 4, 2014.

**Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian\*:**

DCS has received no prior reports of abuse or neglect involving Victoria and Phoeteama Neal.

**1. Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:**

The Department of Child Safety, in conjunction with the Office of Child Welfare Investigations, is conducting a joint investigation with the Goodyear Police Department.

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

There are no other children in the home.

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

No services have been provided.

\*Posted information provides whether there have been reports, or any current or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).

\*Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.



## *Division of Child Safety and Family Services*

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**Janice K. Brewer**  
Governor

**Charles Flanagan**  
Director

Information, if any, regarding the child and other family or household members, not specifically related to the fatality or near fatality, is not posted on the website. This also applies to information, if any, regarding the alleged perpetrator(s) and other family or household members.