



Preliminary Report	Fatality	3/15/18
---------------------------	-----------------	----------------

Amendments to the information originally posted on 11/9/17 are displayed below in red.

1. Victim: Kylie Johnson **a.k.a. Strouse** – 8-year-old female.

2. Date of notification to DCS: 10/17/17

3. Date of fatality: 10/17/17

4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:

Eric McMorris - 10/17/17

Kodie Johnson – 3/8/18

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

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

Eric Christopher McMorris – age 31 – Litchfield Park, AZ

Kodie Johnson – age 23 – Litchfield Park, AZ

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

On October 17th, 2017, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a single car collision after witnesses observed the vehicle driving recklessly by speeding and swerving. The driver of the vehicle was Eric McMorris and 8-year-old Kylie Johnson was a passenger who was pronounced deceased at the scene. Later that day, Mr. McMorris was arrested for manslaughter, aggravated assault and endangerment. **On March 8th, 2018, the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect by Kodie Johnson when she allowed Mr. McMorris to drive her and the child while intoxicated, leading to the roll-over accident.**

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 Kylie **and Kodie** Johnson:

On September 25, 2009, a report was received alleging neglect to Kylie by her mother, **Kodie Johnson**. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

DCS has received the following prior report involving Eric McMorris:

On December 26, 2015, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by Eric McMorris. The allegation was unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

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

A joint investigation **was** conducted with the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the victim’s half-sibling was found to be safe with the other parent under a safety plan. **The safety plan was lifted after the other parent was assessed as safe.** The



other children residing in the home were placed with relatives and one additional child remains hospitalized.

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

The Department is providing services to the family including services to support the other children involved.

*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.