

Summary ReportFatality02/24/2023
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#### Amendments to the information originally posted on 10/06/21 are displayed below in red.

1. Victim: Attiquz Alonzo – 11-year-old male

### 2. Was the child residing in the child's home or in an out-of-home placement at the time of the fatality?

The child was residing in his home when the following incident occurred:

On September 11, 2021, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 11-year-old, Attiquz Alonzo, who was killed in a single-car accident. The child's siblings were also injured in the accident. On September 12, 2021, his father, Christopher Alonzo, was charged with one count of manslaughter, 5 counts of endangerment, and 5 counts of aggravated assault. On September 15, 2021, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court, regarding the siblings. On February 2, 2022, the Court found the dependency as to the mother, Kristal Alonzo, and the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect.

3. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in the child's home, the following information will be provided:

a. Services being provided to the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect at the time of the incident and the date of the last contact before the incident between the entity providing services and the person receiving services:

There were no services being provided to the family by the Department of Child Safety at the time of the incident.

b. Was the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect the subject of a report for investigation at the time of the incident?

No.

c. All involvement of the child's parents and of the person suspected of the abuse or neglect in a situation for which a report for investigation was made or in services provided pursuant to this chapter in the five years preceding the incident:

There has been no DCS involvement of the child's parents in the five years preceding the incident.

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# d. Any investigation pursuant to a report for investigation concerning the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect or services provided to the child or the child's family since the date of the incident involving the fatality:

The investigation of the fatality resulted in the child's father, Christopher Alonzo, being arrested for manslaughter. The other children in the home were placed in licensed foster care. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. The allegations of neglect pertaining to parents, Christopher Alonzo and Kristal Alonzo, were substantiated. The Department provided services to the family, the children were returned to the mother, and the dependency was dismissed on August 11, 2022.

A subsequent report involving Attiquz's siblings was received on September 23, 2022, alleging neglect by their mother, Kristal Alonzo. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The siblings were assessed as safe in their mother's care and the case was closed.

## 4. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in an out-of-home placement, the following information will be provided:

a. Licensing Agency:

N/A

b. Licensing history of the out-of-home placement, including the type of license held by the operator of the placement and the period for which the placement has been licensed:

N/A

c. Summary of all violations by the licensee:

N/A

d. Any other actions by the licensee or an employee of the licensee that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of a child.

N/A

## 5. Actions taken by the Department in response to the case including any changes to policy or practice and/or recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes:

The Department conducted a joint investigation with the Department of Public Safety. The child's father, Christopher Alonzo, was arrested and charged with manslaughter. The Department removed the siblings from the home and filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. The allegations of neglect pertaining to parents, Christopher Alonzo and Kristal Alonzo, were substantiated. The Department provided services to the family, the children were returned to the mother, and the dependency was dismissed on August 11, 2022.

Additionally, in accordance with the DCS Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16), multidisciplinary team (MDT) reviews of fatality and near fatality cases were implemented during the first quarter of FY16. The MDT reviews of fatality and near fatality cases, especially those with

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#### Page 2

#### Page 3

prior DCS involvement, are a key feature of the Strategic Plan and support the objective of increasing the accuracy of safety and risk assessments in investigations.

Cases are reviewed by the MDT in order to identify any systemic factors, both internal and external to the Department that may have had an impact. The Department uses the aggregate data gathered through all of the MDT reviews to assess and guide future changes and/or recommendations to policies, practices, rules or statutes. Findings from these reviews are compiled into an annual report to be shared on the DCS website. The target date for release of the next report is December 1, 2021.

For more information regarding the Department of Child Safety's Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016, please visit the DCS website.

The Department reminds all caregivers to always properly restrain children in vehicles.

For additional information please visit the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Office of Injury Prevention: A Safe Ride home at: <u>http://www.azdhs.gov/prevention/womens-childrens-health/injury-prevention/index.php#safe-ride-home</u>

