



Summary Report	Fatality	1/29/2021
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1. Victim: Baby Girl Starr – newborn female

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 her home when the following incident occurred:

On May 25, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding newborn Baby Girl Starr who was taken to the hospital hours after a homebirth and passed away. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Gila County Superior Court on May 28, 2020, regarding the child's siblings. On July 17, 2020, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Tiffany Starr and Mark Mikles.

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:

DCS received the following prior reports involving Tiffany Starr:

On October 4, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Tiffany Starr. The child was removed and a dependency petition was filed. The allegation was substantiated after the court granted the dependency as to the mother.

On December 29, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Tiffany Starr. The mother had given birth to a child while her other child remained in foster care. The newborn was removed and placed in foster care. The allegation was substantiated after the court granted the dependency as to the mother.

DCS received no prior reports involving Mr. Mikles.



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 report resulted in the other children in the home being placed in foster care. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Gila County Superior Court on May 28, 2020, regarding the child's siblings. On July 17, 2020, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Tiffany Starr and Mark Mikles. The Department is providing services to the family. There have been no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect received regarding this family.

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 Globe Police Department. The other children in the home were placed in foster care. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Gila County Superior Court on May 28, 2020, regarding the child's siblings. On July 17, 2020, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Tiffany Starr and Mark Mikles. The Department is providing services to the family. There have been no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect received regarding this family.

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 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



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Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

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, 2020.

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