



Summary Report	Fatality	11/27/19
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1. Victim: Indigo Baez - 9-month-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 August 17, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 9-month-old Indigo Baez, who had been taken to the hospital after drowning in a bathtub. The child was in critical condition and remained in the hospital. The Department filed a dependency petition as to Indigo and his siblings on August 21, 2019. Indigo later died on September 29, 2019. On October 8, 2019, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Lorimar and Ramon Baez.

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:

No services were 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 has received no prior reports involving Ramon Baez.

DCS has received the following priors involving Lorimar Baez and/or Indigo Baez:

On May 30, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Lorimar Baez. The report was substantiated and the case was closed.

On February 2, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to three children by their mother, Lorimar Baez. The report was unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On October 25, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to Indigo by his mother, Lorimar Baez. The report was substantiated and the family was referred to in-home services. The case was closed on August 9, 2019 after completion of the voluntary services.



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 report resulted in the children being removed and placed with a relative while Indigo remained in the hospital. The Department filed a dependency petition as to Indigo and his siblings on August 21, 2019. Indigo later passed away on September 29, 2019. On October 8, 2019, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Lorimar and Ramon Baez.

No subsequent reports of abuse or neglect have been received.

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 Phoenix Police Department. The investigation of the report resulted in the children being removed and placed with a relative while Indigo remained in the hospital. The Department filed a dependency petition as to Indigo and his siblings on August 21, 2019. Indigo later passed away on September 29, 2019. On October 8, 2019, the court granted the dependency petition as to the siblings and the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect as to the parents, Lorimar and Ramon Baez.

No subsequent reports of abuse or neglect have been received.

The Department reminds all caregivers to always watch children around water. For information and additional resources, please visit the Arizona Department of Health Services website at:

<http://www.azdhs.gov/prevention/womens-childrens-health/injury-prevention/drowning-prevention/index.php>



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

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 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, 2019.

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