



<b>Summary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>5/11/17</b>
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**1. Victim:** Jacob Luna – 4-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 July 11, 2016, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 4-year-old Jacob Luna who died in a roll over car accident. The child's mother, Daniela Ramirez, was driving the vehicle and the child was ejected from the vehicle when the accident occurred. The allegation of neglect to Jacob was substantiated by the Department.

**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:**

The child and his mother, Daniela Ramirez, were involved in the following:

On April 12, 2015, a report was received alleging abuse to Jacob by a relative. A joint investigation with the Glendale Police Department was conducted and no disclosure of abuse was made. This report was still open when the two following subsequent reports were received.

On April 22, 2015 and April 23, 2015 two separate reports were received alleging neglect and physical abuse to Jacob and his siblings, by the children's mother Daniela Ramirez. Daniela disclosed using and testing positive for methamphetamines. A Safety Plan was put in place and the family was offered, and accepted, in-home services by the Department, and they were successfully completed.

On May 9, 2016, a report was received alleging neglect to Jacob and his siblings by the children's mother, Daniela Ramirez. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the family was provided with information on services available in the community.

**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 removal of the other children in the home. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court and substantiated the allegation of neglect pertaining to the mother. The family is being provided with services. 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 investigation of the fatality report resulted in the removal of the other children in the home. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court and substantiated the allegation of neglect pertaining to the mother. The family is being provided with services.

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.

This case was 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 is using 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 will be compiled into an annual report to be shared on the DCS website. The target date for release of this report is December 1, 2017.

For more information regarding the Department of Child Safety's Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016, please visit the DCS website at: <https://dcs.az.gov/news/dcs-strategic-plan>.

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



## *Arizona Department of Child Safety*

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**Douglas A. Ducey**  
Governor

**Gregory McKay**  
Director

For additional information please visit the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Office of Injury Prevention: A Safe Ride home at: <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/ipcfr/a-safe-ride-home/index.php>.