



<b>Summary Report</b>	<b>Fatality</b>	<b>10/12/18</b>
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**1. Victim:** Josiah Gishie – 1-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 7/17/18, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of 1-year-old Josiah Gishie. The child sustained major injuries while in the sole care of the mother, Donielle King. On 10/4/18, Ms. King was charged with 1st degree murder and two counts of child abuse.

**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:**

The Department was providing in-home services to the family and the child was in mother's physical custody when the fatality report was received. The last date of contact between the Department and the family was on 7/10/18. The last date of contact between the in-home service provider and the family was on 7/13/18.

**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?**

Donielle King and one of her children were subjects of the July 9, 2018 report.

**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's mother, Donielle King, was involved in the following prior reports:

On January 24, 2014, a report was received alleging neglect to two children by their mother, Donielle King. A dependency petition was filed on all three of mother's children.

On August 12, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Donielle King. The allegations were substantiated. The mother refused the services that were offered by the Department.

On April 20, 2016, a report was received alleging physical abuse to one child and neglect to all four children by their mother, Donielle King. The report also alleged neglect to three additional children that resided in the home by Donielle King. The allegations to those three children were unsubstantiated. The allegations as to Donielle's children were substantiated and a dependency petition was filed on all four of mother's children.



On March 27, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to Josiah by his mother, Donielle King. A dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court and the allegations were substantiated.

On July 9, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Donielle King. The investigation assessed the child as safe with their mother and was open pending follow-up when the fatality report was received.

The child's father was involved in the following prior report:

On March 27, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to Josiah by his mother, Donielle King. A dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court and the allegations as to both parents were substantiated.

**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 victim's siblings being placed in licensed foster care. The mother was arrested for child abuse and later charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder on 9/25/18. Services are being provided and 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 mother was initially arrested for child abuse and later charged with 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder. The fatality victim's siblings were placed in licensed foster care. Services are being provided and no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect have been received.



## *Arizona Department of Child Safety*

**Douglas A. Ducey**  
Governor

**Gregory McKay**  
Director

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, 2018.

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