

<b>Summary Report</b>	<b>Near Fatality</b>	<b>06/03/2024</b>
-----------------------	----------------------	-------------------

**1. Victim:** 1-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 near fatality?**

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

On May 7, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 1-month-old child who had been brought to the hospital by a family member due to concerns of neglect. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in serious condition with severe malnutrition and dehydration, requiring intubation. On May 19, 2023, Kira Jones was indicted by a Pima County grand jury with two counts of child abuse and three counts of drug possession. Kira Jones was convicted of child abuse on February 13, 2024, and is serving 7.5 years in prison with 25 years of probation supervision. On May 26, 2023, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court. On July 14, 2023, the court found the mother, Kira Jones, neglected the near fatality victim.

**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:**

The child's mother, Kira Jones, was involved in the following prior reports:

On December 26, 2004, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by the mother, Kira Jones. The allegation was substantiated and resulted in the removal of

the child from the home. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court and was providing services to the family. Parental rights were relinquished to this child and they were adopted by a relative.

On September 9, 2008, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their father and the mother, Kira Jones. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court. The child was placed out of the home and services were being provided to the family. Parental rights were terminated to this child and they were adopted.

On August 19, 2013, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by their father and the mother, Kira Jones. The allegation was substantiated and resulted in the removal of the child from the home. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court and was providing services to the family. Parental rights were terminated to this child and they were adopted.

**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 near fatality:**

The investigation of the near fatality report resulted in the arrest of the mother, Kira Jones for child abuse. The Department substantiated the allegations of neglect against the mother. The sibling was placed in a licensed foster home and, upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was also placed in licensed foster care. Services are being provided to the family. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court. On July 14, 2023, the court found the mother, Kira Jones, neglected the near fatality victim. No subsequent reports of abuse or neglect were received regarding the 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 Oro Valley Police Department. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was placed in licensed foster care. The other child in the home was also placed in a licensed foster home. The Department is providing services to the family. On May 19, 2023, Kira Jones was indicted by a Pima County grand jury with two counts of child abuse and three counts of drug possession. Kira Jones was convicted of child abuse on February 13, 2024, and is serving 7.5 years in prison with 25 years of probation supervision. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court. On July 14, 2023, the court found the mother, Kira Jones, neglected the near fatality victim. There were no subsequent reports received.

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 fatality and near fatality cases with prior DCS involvement, which are a key feature of the Strategic Plan and supports 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, 2024.