



Summary Report	Near Fatality	11/05/20
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1. Victim: 13-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 near fatality?

The child was on runaway status from his out-of-home placement when the following incident occurred:

On November 16, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 13-year-old male who had been taken to the hospital in critical condition after being shot in the abdomen. On March 11, 2020, the Department substantiated the allegation of physical abuse against the mother, Tonya Monroe.

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 services to the family as the near fatality victim and his siblings were in the Department's legal custody at the time of the incident. The two children that were present at the mother's home at the time of the incident were on runaway from their previous kinship placement since August 27, 2019.

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 father was involved in the following prior report:

On November 13, 2014, a report was received alleging neglect to the near fatality victim by his father. The Department was unable to locate the parent.

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

On January 22, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect to the near fatality victim and his siblings by their mother, Tonya Monroe and another adult. The children were already in the Department's legal custody due to the previous in-home dependency. The children were removed from the home and the allegations were substantiated as to the mother.



On March 10, 2015, a report was received alleging neglect and physical abuse to one child by their mother, Tonya Monroe. The report was unsubstantiated after the child denied the allegations.

On February 1, 2016, a report was received alleging neglect to one child by their mother, Tonya Monroe. The child was removed and the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court. The allegations were substantiated.

On March 18, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to one child by their mother, Tonya Monroe. The report was unsubstantiated.

On November 27, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to one child by their mother, Tonya Monroe. The report was unsubstantiated as there was not enough evidence to support the allegation.

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 sibling being returned to the Department's physical custody and has since been placed with a relative. After release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was placed in licensed foster care. The allegation of physical abuse pertaining to Ms. Monroe has been substantiated.

A subsequent report of neglect was received on December 6, 2019, after the mother gave birth to another child. The child was removed and the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court.

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:



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

The Department conducted a joint investigation with the Phoenix Police Department. The sibling that was present in the mother's home was returned to the Department's custody and has since been placed with a relative. After release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was placed in licensed foster care. The Department substantiated the allegation of physical abuse against the mother, Tonya Monroe. Services are being provided.

A subsequent report of neglect was received on December 6, 2019, after the mother gave birth to another child. The child was removed and the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court.

The Department reminds all caregivers to practice firearm safety and always store all firearms unloaded, in a secure locked location.

For additional information on firearm safety, please visit the Arizona Firearm Injury Prevention Coalition's website at: <http://www.afipc.org/afipc.html>.

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, 2020.

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>.