



Summary Report	Near Fatality	10/1/2020
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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 residing in his home when the following incident occurred:

On December 21, 2019, the Department of Child Safety (DCS) received a report regarding a thirteen-year-old male who was transported to the hospital after being found unresponsive due to high blood sugar levels. It was determined the near fatality victim was in critical condition. This child had been hospitalized multiple times in the last year due to similar concerns. DCS substantiated the allegation of neglect of the child by his mother, Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez.

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:

Although there was not an open case at the time the near fatality report was received, the family was engaging with community services referred by the Department.

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 received the following prior reports involving Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez and/or the near fatality victim:

On April 27, 2012, a report was received alleging neglect to the near fatality victim and his half siblings by their mother, Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez and her husband. The allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On March 5, 2019, a report was received alleging neglect to the near fatality victim by his mother, Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez. The investigation was open when a new report was received. The allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On March 26, 2019, a report was received alleging neglect to the near fatality victim by his mother, Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez. The investigation resulted in the child being



assessed as safe with his mother. The mother declined services from the Department. The allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On June 22, 2019, a report was received alleging neglect to the near fatality victim by his mother, Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez. The child was assessed as safe with his mother. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed. The Department provided a referral for services within 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 near fatality:

The investigation of the near fatality resulted in the child initially being placed in foster care, however, he has since been returned home. The family was provided in-home services by the Department. The allegation of neglect by Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez has been substantiated. 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 Tucson Police Department. Initially, the near fatality victim was placed in foster care, however, he has since been returned home. The family was provided in-home services by the Department. The allegation of neglect by Sukie Johnson AKA Sukie Sanchez has been substantiated. No subsequent reports have been 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 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.



ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT
of CHILD SAFETY

Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

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>.