

Ben Henderson, Interim Director Katie Hobbs, Governor

Summary Report	Near Fatality	09/17/2024	
Summary Report	Near ratancy	03/17/2024	

### **1. Victim:** 1-year-old female

## 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 her home when the following incident occurred:

On June 11, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 1-year-old female who was found unresponsive and was transported to the hospital. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in serious condition with heat exhaustion and dehydration. On June 15, 2023, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Yuma County Superior Court. On July 16, 2023, the court found that the child's parents, Enrique Gutierrez Jr. and Dalia Haueter-Gonzalez, neglected the child. Additionally, the father, Enrique Gutierrez Jr., was charged with child abuse related to the incident and was found quilty in the Yuma County Superior Court Superior Court on February 8, 2024.

### 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:

DCS received the following prior report involving Dalia Haueter-Gonzalez, Enrique Gutierrez Jr., and the near fatality victim:

On September 10, 2021, a report was received alleging neglect to the child by her mother, Dalia Haueter-Gonzalez. The investigation assessed the child as safe in her parents' care, with a safety plan in place. The family was referred for services by the Department. Ms.



Page 2

Haueter-Gonzalez completed the requested services, the safety plan was lifted, and the child was assessed as safe in her mother's care. The allegation of neglect was substantiated as to Ms. Haueter-Gonzalez and the case was closed on March 7, 2023.

# 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:

As a result of the near fatality investigation, the child's father, Enrique Gutierrez Jr., was charged with and convicted of child abuse in the Yuma County Superior Court. Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed with a relative. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Yuma County Superior Court and provided services to the family. On July 16, 2023, the court found that the parents, Dalia Haueter-Gonzalez and Enrique Gutierrez Jr., neglected the child. Ultimately, the court appointed relatives as the child's permanent guardians and the dependency was dismissed. The allegations of neglect to the child by her parents were substantiated and the case was closed. There have been no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect 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 Yuma Police Department. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was placed in a relative's home. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Yuma County Superior Court and provided services to the family. On July 16, 2023, the court found that the parents, Dalia Haueter-Gonzalez and Enrique Gutierrez Jr., neglected the child. Ultimately, the court appointed relatives as the child's permanent guardians and the dependency was dismissed. The allegations of neglect to the child by her parents were substantiated and the case was

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### Page 3

closed. There have been no subsequent reports of abuse of neglect received regarding the family.

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.

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