

<b>Summary Report</b>	<b>Near Fatality</b>	<b>03/31/2023</b>
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**1. Victim:** 3-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 with a relative with a safety plan in place when the following incident occurred:

On June 23, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 3-month-old male that was taken to the hospital with difficulty breathing. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical condition with an array of injuries and head trauma. The child had been residing with a relative under a safety plan. The safety plan was violated and the child was in the care of his parents, Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen, when the incident occurred. On May 5, 2022, the Maricopa County Superior Court found the parents abused and/or failed to protect the child from 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 services to the family as a dependency petition had been filed in response to the prior report. The child was residing in a relative's home with a safety plan in place when the near fatality report was received. The last date of contact between the Department and the family was on June 16, 2020.

**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?**

The children and the parents, Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen, were subjects of the April 22, 2020 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:**

DCS received the following prior report involving Vashti Rogers, Jimmy Nguyen, and the near fatality victim:

On April 22, 2020, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to the child. The report alleged the child had fallen from the father's arms and had no apparent injury. When the child awoke from a nap, the child's eyes were bloodshot and was taken to the hospital. The child had multiple injuries that did not match the parent's explanation. A present danger plan was put in place to ensure the children's safety while the investigation continued. The children were removed and placed with a relative with a safety plan in place. On May 27, 2020, the Department filed a dependency with the Maricopa County Superior Court. On February 22, 2021, the Maricopa County Superior Court found the parents abused the child and the Department substantiated the allegations.

**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 child being placed in a foster home after his release from the hospital. The Department had already filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court prior to the near fatality incident. The Department provided services to the family and substantiated the allegations of physical abuse by Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen.

A subsequent report was received on October 20, 2021, involving an additional child that was born after the near fatality incident. On November 23, 2021, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court regarding this child. On May 5, 2022, the Maricopa County Superior Court terminated the parental rights to the children.

**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:**

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The Department conducted a joint investigation with the Phoenix Police Department. As a result of the investigation, the children were placed in a foster home. The Department had already filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court prior to the near fatality incident. The Department provided services to the family and substantiated the allegations of physical abuse by Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen.

A subsequent report was received on October 20, 2021, involving an additional child that was born after the near fatality incident. On November 23, 2021, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court regarding this child. On May 5, 2022, the Maricopa County Superior Court terminated the parental rights to the children.

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, 2023.