

Information for Release		5/9/2012
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Date of the notification to CPS: 12/31/2011

Fatality

The date the child suffered the fatality: 12/31/2011

Child's name: Celeste Sirmans

Age at time of incident: 9 Months

Perpetrator(s): James Sirmans

Age: 26 years

City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s): At the time of the incident, the child and perpetrator were living in Phoenix, Arizona.

A. Circumstances of the fatality or near fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:

On December 31, 2011, the father, James Sirmans reported finding Celeste not breathing. The Fire Department and Law Enforcement responded to the home. Celeste was transported to the hospital where she was pronounced dead on arrival. She was found to have multiple injuries in different states of healing.

B. Whether CPS has received any reports or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian* :

CPS had no prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Celeste Sirmans by James Sirmans.

1. Actions taken by CPS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:

CPS conducted a joint investigation with the Phoenix Police Department.

2. Actions taken regarding the child and/or other children in the home:

Following an assessment of child safety the siblings were placed in a licensed foster home.

3. Whether the agency is or intends to provide direct services or service referrals to the family:

Services being offered to the family include supervised visitation and case management.

*Posted information provides whether there have been reports or any current or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).

Information, if any, regarding other family or household members and the child or the alleged perpetrator is not posted on the Web site. Calls to the Child Abuse Hotline that do not meet the criteria of a report because they do not contain allegations of abuse or neglect (or because there is no information provided to locate the child or family) are not posted.