



Information for Release		5/14/15
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Date of the notification to DCS: 5/7/2015

Near Fatality

Date of fatality or near fatality: 5/7/2015

Child's name: Ni Shaune

Age at time of incident: 2 ½ years

Alleged perpetrator(s) name and age:

Garrett Stevens – age 21

City, town or general location of residence of the child and alleged perpetrator(s):

Phoenix, AZ

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

On May 7, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 2 ½-year-old Ni Shaune who had been taken to the hospital after reportedly choking on a hot dog. Ni Shaune was observed to have bruising to his face and further examination determined he had a severe traumatic brain injury. Ni Shaune had been in the care of his mother's boyfriend, Garrett Stevens, and he has since been arrested for child abuse.

Whether DCS 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*:

DCS has received no prior reports of abuse or neglect involving Garrett Stevens and Ni Shaune.

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

The Department of Child Safety, in conjunction with the Office of Child Welfare Investigations, is conducting 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, a sibling was placed in a licensed foster home. Upon release from the hospital, Ni Shaune will also be placed in a licensed foster home.

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

The Department of Child Safety is providing services to the family.

*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).

*Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.



Arizona Department of Child Safety

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Gregory McKay
Director

Information, if any, regarding the child and other family or household members, not specifically related to the fatality or near fatality, is not posted on the website. This also applies to information, if any, regarding the alleged perpetrator(s) and other family or household members.