

Douglas A. Ducey Governor

Charles Flanagan
Director

Information for Release	1/8/2015

Date of the notification to DCS: 1/28/2014

Child Fatality

Date of fatality or near fatality: 1/28/2014

Child's name: David Mollohan

Age at time of incident: 13 months

Alleged perpetrator(s) name and age:

Travis Mollohan - age 22

Melissa Vaillancourt - age 23

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

Payson, AZ

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

On January 28, 2014, the Department of Child Safety received a report after 13-month-old David Mollohan was found at home unresponsive wedged between the side of his crib and the crib mattress. David was transported to a hospital where he was pronounced dead shortly after arrival. The Medical Examiner determined the cause of death to be positional asphyxia. David's parents, Melissa Vaillancourt and Travis Mollohan, were aware that the crib was unsafe and not functioning properly and admitted that David had been stuck in the crib before. Although the Medical Examiner determined the manner of death to be accidental, the parents' neglect that resulted in David's death was substantiated.

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 David Mollohan and his parents.

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 Investigation, conducted a joint investigation with the Payson Police Department.

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

There were no other children in the home.

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

The family was offered, but declined services.

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*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.

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.