

<b>Information for Release</b>		6/3/2013
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**Date of the notification to CPS:** 5/4/2011

**Fatality**

**The date the child suffered the fatality:** 5/6/2011

**Child's name:** Erika Roughton

**Age at time of incident:** 2 Years

**Perpetrator(s):** Kristine Pafford Roughton

**Age:** 32

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

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

On or about May 4, 2011, Kristine Pafford Roughton, neglected Erika Roughton, when she failed to provide adequate supervision. The child was unsupervised in the backyard and had access to the swimming pool; thus placing the child at unreasonable risk of harm and resulting in the child drowning in the backyard pool.

**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\* :**

In addition to the report concerning the incident causing the fatality, Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) had received two other reports alleging abuse or neglect of Erika Roughton by Kristine Pafford Roughton.

On August 27, 2010 a report was received against Kristine Pafford Roughton that alleged the mother has hit Erika (22 months) across the face, on her back and legs. In June, 2010, the mother hit Erika with an open hand across the face because she tried to drink some of mother's iced tea. As a result Erika's lip was swollen for a half day or so. The baby was alleged to have bruises in "odd places". One bruise was seen on the right hip that was quarter sized and dark gray. There were red marks on Erika's back that looked like an abrasion but not bleeding. She had about four of them, circles like mother's fingerprint. On August 26, 2010, about 5:30pm mother was sitting about three to four feet away from Erika while she was playing. Mother was not paying attention to her at all and Erika fell down concrete steps.

A second report was received also on August 27, 2010. It was reported that the mother slapped Erika's hands hard because she was touching the TV, and then slapped her again for crying. It was reported that the mother does not supervise Erika as she had wandered away from the apartment and fell off from concrete steps and landed on her head. The child was assessed to be safe in the home and the findings were unsubstantiated in regards to both reports. The family was offered referrals to community services.

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

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) conducted a joint investigation with the Glendale Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the sibling was placed with the father.

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

Services provided to the family included referrals to community resources.

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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).

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.