



Preliminary Report	Fatality	3/16/16
---------------------------	-----------------	----------------

1. Victim: Cameron Patterson – 2 1/2 -year-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 08/10/15

3. Date of fatality: 08/10/15

4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect: 10/16/15

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Maricopa County – Phoenix, AZ

6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:

Zerian Clark – age 21 – Phoenix, AZ

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

On August 10, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report stating 911 received a phone call regarding a child not breathing. Paramedics responded and pronounced Cameron deceased at 4:51AM. It is estimated that he was deceased approximately an hour prior to the 911 call due to being cold to the touch and rigor mortis. The Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Office determined Cameron's cause of death was from complications of blunt trauma to the head and torso. The manner of death was determined to be a homicide. The Department of Child Safety determined that the mother, Zerian Clark, abused or failed to protect Cameron from abuse that lead to his death.

8. Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the current alleged perpetrator(s):

DCS has received one prior report involving, Zerian Clark, and the fatality victim Cameron Patterson:

On October 9, 2014, the Department of Child Safety received a report alleging neglect to, Cameron Patterson, by his mother and father. The report alleged that Cameron Patterson witnessed a domestic violence altercation between his mother and father. Initial contact was made with the fatality victim's mother on October 20, 2014. Multiple attempts were made to meet with the family there after; however, the Department was unable to make contact with the family. The case was open when the current report was received.

9. Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality:

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Phoenix Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, a sibling was removed and placed in a licensed foster home.

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

The Department is providing services to the family.



Arizona Department of Child Safety

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Gregory McKay
Director

*The determination that a fatality or near fatality is the result of abuse, abandonment or neglect is based one or more of the following criteria: (1) The perpetrator(s) arrest related to the incident, (2) Substantiated finding(s) linking the alleged perpetrator(s) action(s) to the fatality or near fatality and/or (3) Results of the Medical Examiner's report.

** Information released after July 3, 2015 provides reports, or any current or past cases, of abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the alleged perpetrator pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807.01(A)(1)(e).
Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.