



Summary Report	Fatality	11/25/15
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1. Victim: Joylynn Giebel – 21-month-old female

2. Was the child residing in the child's home or in an out-of-home placement at the time of the fatality?

The child was residing in her home when the following incident occurred:

On June 5, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report following a response from EMS to the residence regarding 21-month-old Joylynn Giebel. Joylynn was not breathing and EMS attempts to resuscitate her were unsuccessful. Joylynn was transported to a local hospital where she was pronounced deceased. Joylynn was found to have significant injuries including bruising to the left side of her head, several small bruises and scrapes to her face and body, internal trauma to her abdomen and three broken ribs. The treating physician stated that the injuries appear to be caused by some form of abuse. Joylynn's stepfather, Andrew "Drew" Isaacs, was arrested on one count of child abuse. On June 25, 2015, Joylynn's mother, Aminda Giebel, was also charged with child abuse. Andrew Isaacs has since been charged with reckless manslaughter.

3. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in the child's home, the following information will be provided:

a. Services being provided to the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect at the time of the incident and the date of the last contact before the incident between the entity providing services and the person receiving services:

Although no services were being provided prior to the June 5, 2015 fatality report, the family was being investigated for an open report dated December 21, 2014. The report was responded to on December 22, 2014 however, there appeared to be no one home. A card with a message to contact the Department as soon as possible was left at the residence. No further visits to the home were made and the case remained open when the current report was received.

b. Was the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect the subject of a report for investigation at the time of the incident?

Andrew Isaacs, Aminda Gielbel, Joylynn Giebel, and her siblings were subjects of the December 21, 2014 report.

c. All involvement of the child's parents and of the person suspected of the abuse or neglect in a situation for which a report for investigation was made or in services provided pursuant to this chapter in the five years preceding the incident:

The child's mother, Aminda Giebel, and stepfather, Andrew "Drew" Isaacs, were involved in the following:

On January 13, 2011, a report was received alleging neglect to Joylynn's siblings and physical abuse to one of the siblings by the children's mother, Aminda Giebel. The investigation assessed the children to be safe and the allegations were unsubstantiated. The family was provided with information on available community services and the case was closed.



On January 7, 2013, a report was received alleging neglect to Joylynn's siblings by the children's mother, Aminda Giebel. The investigation assessed the children to be safe and the allegations were unsubstantiated. The family was offered in-home services by the Department, but declined.

On August 6, 2013, a report was received alleging neglect to Joylynn when Aminda Giebel tested positive for amphetamine, methamphetamine, barbiturates and THC at the birth. A Safety Plan was put in place and Ms. Giebel was provided with substance abuse services. Ms. Giebel did engage in services and the case was closed on April 25, 2014 with the allegation unsubstantiated.

On December 21, 2014, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to Joylynn by Andrew Isaacs and Aminda Giebel. The report also alleged that Andrew Isaacs and Aminda Giebel abuse and sell drugs in the home and have been known to give Joylynn Percocet in order to "tranquelize" her. The report was responded to on December 22, 2014 however, there appeared to be no one home. A card with a message to contact the Department as soon as possible was left at the residence. No further visits to the home were made and the case remained open when the current report was received. The allegations have since been unsubstantiated.

d. Any investigation pursuant to a report for investigation concerning the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect or services provided to the child or the child's family since the date of the incident involving the fatality:

The investigation into the fatality resulted in the arrests of the child's mother, Aminda Giebel, and stepfather, Andrew Isaacs. A sibling was removed from the home and the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. The Department is providing services to the family and the allegations have been proposed for substantiation. No subsequent reports of abuse or neglect have been received.

4. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in an out-of-home placement, the following information will be provided:

a. Licensing Agency:

N/A

b. Licensing history of the out-of-home placement, including the type of license held by the operator of the placement and the period for which the placement has been licensed:

N/A

c. Summary of all violations by the licensee:

N/A

d. Any other actions by the licensee or an employee of the licensee that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of a child.

N/A



5. Actions taken by the Department in response to the case including any changes to policy or practice and/or recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes:

The Department placed the victim's sibling in a licensed foster home and filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. Services are being provided to the family through DCS. The allegations in the fatality report have been proposed for substantiation.

On June 29, 2015, a communication was sent to all DCS staff reinforcing the use of the Office of Child Welfare Investigations (OCWI) as a resource for additional assistance when it appears a child is missing, unsafe, or information about the child's whereabouts is being withheld.

The Department was in the process of launching advanced training classes for investigative staff on Joint Investigation Protocol (JIP) when the fatality occurred. This training is designed to ensure greater collaboration with law enforcement on cases involving criminal conduct. Since June 2015, over 200 staff from DCS field units throughout the state have been trained.

Additionally, in accordance with the DCS Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16), multidisciplinary team (MDT) reviews of fatality and near fatality cases were implemented during the first quarter of FY16. The MDT reviews of fatality and near fatality cases, especially those with prior DCS involvement, are a key feature of the Strategic Plan and support the objective of increasing the accuracy of safety and risk assessments in investigations.

This case was reviewed by the MDT in order to identify any systemic factors, both internal and external to the Department that may have had an impact. The Department is using the aggregate data gathered through all of the MDT reviews to assess and guide future changes and/or recommendations to policies, practices, rules or statutes. Findings from these reviews will be compiled into an annual report to be shared on the DCS website. The target date for release of this report is September 1, 2016.

For more information regarding the Department of Child Safety's Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016, please visit the DCS website at: <https://dcs.az.gov/news/dcs-strategic-plan>