



Summary Report	Child Fatality	7/9/15
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1. Victim: Benjamin Lopez – 2-year-old male

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 his home at the time of the fatality.

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:

No services were being provided to the family by the Department of Child Safety.

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?

No. The investigation of the prior report involving the child was closed on March 17, 2015.

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 and his parents were involved in the following prior report:

On January 21, 2015, a report was received alleging that Benjamin had been physically abused by his father. The police were called and took pictures of a red mark on Benjamin's face. It appeared as though Benjamin was hit with a hand or an object. The father was arrested for child abuse and the allegation in the DCS report was substantiated. Benjamin was assessed as being safe in his mother's care and the case was closed on March 17, 2015.

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 of the fatality report resulted in the removal of another child from the home. The Department filed a dependency case with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court and services are being provided to the family. 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:

A Fatality/Near Fatality Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) reviewed the case and determined that although this was a tragic accident and not a case of intentional neglect, the fatality may have been prevented if the child had adequate supervision. The Department reminds all caregivers to always watch children around water.