

Information for Release

2/10/2014

Date of the notification to CPS: 8/26/2013

Near Fatality

The date the child suffered the near fatality: 8/26/2013

Child's name: Ivanna

Age at time of incident: 2 1/2 Years

Perpetrator(s): Sandra Valenzuela

Age: Age 31

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

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

On August 26, 2013, Sandra Valenzuela neglected her child, Ivanna, when she was involved in a single vehicle accident while driving under the influence with Ivanna in the car. Ivanna sustained a serious traumatic brain injury involving skull fractures and hematomas. She was also diagnosed with multiple other injuries including a lacerated liver.

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* :

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) has received no prior report alleging abuse or neglect of Ivanna by Sandra Valenzuela.

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

The Office of Child Welfare Investigations (OCWI), assisted by Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS), conducted a joint investigation with the Tucson Police Department.

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

Upon release from the hospital, Ivanna was placed with her father. 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:

Case management and substance abuse services were offered to the family.

*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.