

Information for Release		12/6/2011
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Date of the notification to CPS: 4/11/2011

Fatality

The date the child suffered the fatality: 4/11/2011

Child's name: Joshua Stevens

Age at time of incident: 5 Months

Perpetrator(s): Whitney Stevens

Age: 23

City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s): The child and the alleged perpetrator were residing in Phoenix at the time of the incident.

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

On or about April 11, 2011, Whitney Stevens neglected Joshua Stevens, age 5 months, when she placed an adult size shower cap on his head for scalp treatment and then left the child unsupervised. The shower cap slid down and covered Joshua Stevens' nose and mouth, resulting in his death.

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* :

CPS has received no prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Joshua Stevens by Whitney Stevens.

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

CPS conducted a joint investigation with the Maricopa County Sherriff's Department.

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

An assessment of child safety was completed for the other child who is in the home.

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

Intensive Family Preservation Services, including parenting skills, substance abuse treatment, grief and individual counseling are being provided.

*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.