

Information for Release

8/12/2011

Date of the notification to CPS: 4/19/2011

Near Fatality

The date the child suffered the near fatality: 4/19/2011

Child's name: Kayla

Age at time of incident: 13 Months

Perpetrator(s): Jessica Peterson

Age: 30

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

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

On April 19, 2011, the mother, Jessica Peterson failed to ensure adequate supervision of her daughter Kayla when she left her unattended in the bathtub. Kayla was found completely submerged in the water and was not breathing. Kayla was transported by ambulance and admitted to Cardon Children's Hospital in critical condition.

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 not received any prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Kayla by Jessica.

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

CPS investigated the allegations through a joint investigation with the Tempe Police Department.

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

Kayla was discharged from the hospital and placed in a step-down facility for continued medical care.

The other children in the home were placed in foster care following an assessment of child safety.

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

Intensive out-of-home services are being provided to the children and family. These services include intensive parent aide services, counseling and classes that address the needs of 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).

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.