

Information for Release		6/19/2013
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Date of the notification to CPS: 1/25/2012

Near Fatality

The date the child suffered the near fatality: 1/25/2012

Child's name: Liana

Age at time of incident: 2 Months

Perpetrator(s): Jessica Elack

Age: 22

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

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

On January 24, 2012, Jessica Elack, mother to Liana, neglected the child when she failed to provide her with the proper nutrients which led to the child becoming critically ill. The mother stated that she ran out of formula on January 24, 2012 so she gave Liana two 5oz bottles of tap water. The last bottle was given to her around 8:30pm on the night of January 24, 2012. Around 10:30pm the mother noticed that Liana's lips were blue, her eyes were rolling in the back of her head and she was having trouble breathing. The mother called 911 and EMS transported Liana to the hospital where she was admitted with a diagnosis of hyponatremia, possible water intoxication, seizures with acute respiratory failure. The hospital reported the child had been given tap water for an extended period of time.

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 reports alleging abuse or neglect of Liana by Jessica Elack.

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

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) conducted a joint investigation with Mesa Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, the child and sibling were placed in foster care.

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

Services offered to the family included parent aide services, supervised visitation and domestic violence counseling.

*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.