

Information for Release		5/13/2013
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Date of the notification to CPS: 8/25/2012

Fatality

The date the child suffered the fatality: 8/25/2012

Child's name: Mary Jimerfield

Age at time of incident: 2 Years

Perpetrator(s): Sierra Pitt

Age: 20

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

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

On August 25, 2012, Sierra Pitt neglected Mary Jimerfield by not providing the basic necessities of life to include a safe home environment. Mary Jimerfield was found deceased in the home which was found to be over 100 degrees as the air conditioning had not been functioning for the past two days. Mary died as a result of environmental heat exposure in association with malnutrition and dehydration.

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* :

In addition to the report concerning the incident causing the fatality, Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) had received one prior report alleging abuse or neglect of Mary Jimerfield by Sierra Pitt.

On August 23, 2012 a report was received that alleged that there is no food in the home. It was reported that the mother is often hard to wake up and the mother was planning to fly to Washington with the child to a friend's house and give the friend temporary custody; however, the friend had not sent mother plane tickets. The report was still open when the report concerning the child fatality was received.

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 the Mesa Police Department.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, a sibling was removed from the home and placed in foster care.

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

Services provided to the family included substance abuse treatment, supervised visitation and case management services.

*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.