

Information for Release	AMENDED	4/4/2013
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Date of the notification to CPS: 3/26/2013

Fatality

The date the child suffered the fatality: 3/26/2013

Child's name: Nathaniel Lopez

Age at time of incident: 3 Years

Perpetrator(s): Kyron Grow

Age: 37 years old

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 Globe, Arizona.

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

On March 26, 2013, Nathaniel Lopez was transported to Cobra Hospital in Globe by paramedics. Once they arrived at Globe Hospital Nathaniel "coded for 30 minutes" until they were able to stabilize him. Nathaniel was then airlifted to Phoenix Children's Hospital. Nathaniel had visible bruising and trauma all over his body. He had visible swelling to his face and head. There were bruises (different shapes and in different stages of healing) on his face, right chest, left hip, both thighs, both legs and his penis. There was bruising on his forehead and around both eyes. Nathaniel had a red abrasion on his chin. The CT scan showed a new and old bleed in his scalp area. His chest x-ray revealed an old clavicle fracture and infiltrates in his lungs. Nathaniel was pronounced dead at Phoenix Children's Hospital on 3/26/13 at 4:15 PM. Kyron Grow was arrested and charged with First Degree Murder. On April 10, 2013 Marcelina Rich was indicted on second degree murder charges.

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, CPS had received two prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Nathaniel Lopez by Marcelina Rich and/or Kyron Grow. The following prior report alleges abuse or neglect of Nathaniel Lopez by Marcelina Rich. *Note: The July 26, 2012 report did not involve Kyron Grow.

On July 26, 2012 a report was received that alleged that the mother's boyfriend is often overheard "talking abusive" toward the children and "calling them names." It was further alleged that the boyfriend locks the children outside, it is not known why or if the children have access to food and water during this time. The mother was allegedly aware of the situation and did not attempt to intervene and protect the children. The home is also "not in living condition." An investigation was initiated and the report was still open when the second report was received.

The following prior report alleges abuse or neglect of Nathaniel Lopez by both Kyron Grow and Marcelina Rich.

On March 21, 2013 a report was received stating that Nathaniel arrived in the Emergency Room on this date with his entire middle forehead swollen out. Both eyes were horribly swollen and he had a "healing black eye." According to

the hospital, he couldn't even open his eyes. Nathaniel's caretakers said that on March 13, 2013, he was walking out of their mobile home and he lost his balance and hit his face on the side of the door. They did not seek any medical treatment for him at that time. On March 17, 2013, the caretakers reported they were on a camping trip and he fell and hit his forehead on a rock. On the morning of March 21, 2013, the caretakers noticed Nathaniel had a big "goose egg" on his head so they took him to the hospital, where he was also observed to have bruises on his shins, his right lower leg, and abrasions to his mid-back. He was assessed by the hospital to not have a skull fracture or internal bleeding and the doctor believed his injuries were consistent with the explanations given. Nathaniel was given ibuprofen and released. An investigation was initiated and the report was still open when the current incident occurred.

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

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) and the Office of Child Welfare Investigations (OCWI) are conducting a joint investigation with the Gila County Sheriff's Office.

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

Following an assessment of child safety, one sibling was placed with his father and the other siblings were placed in foster care.

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

Services will be determined following the completion of the investigation.

*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.