



## Arizona Department of Child Safety

Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor

Gregory McKay  
Director

Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	8/21/15
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**1. Near Fatality Victim:** 8-month-old male child

**2. Date of notification to DCS:** 3/26/15

**3. Date of near fatality:** 3/26/15

**4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect\*:**

Abigail Silva – March 30, 2015

Raul Mejia II – May 15, 2015

**5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Pima County – Tucson, AZ

**6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Abigail Silva – age 25 – Tucson, AZ

Raul Mejia II – age 26 – Tucson, AZ

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

On March 26, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding an eight-month-old baby boy who had been admitted to the hospital in serious condition. Further examination determined the child had multiple, severe, non-accidental injuries including a spinal fracture, traumatic spinal subarachnoid hemorrhage, failure to thrive, and closed abusive head trauma. On March 30, 2015, the child's mother, Abigail Silva, admitted to injuring the child and was charged with child abuse. The DCS investigation also found the father, Raul Mejia II, to be responsible for failing to protect the baby from physical abuse by his mother.

**8. Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the current alleged perpetrator(s)\*\*:**

DCS has received no prior reports involving Abigail Silva, Raul Mejia II, or the near fatality victim.

**9. Actions taken by DCS in response to the near fatality:**

A joint investigation was conducted with the Tucson Police Department.

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

Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed with relatives. There were no other children in the home.

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

The Department is providing services to the family.

\*The determination that a fatality or near fatality is the result of abuse, abandonment or neglect is based one or more of the following criteria: (1) The perpetrator(s) arrest related to the incident, (2) Substantiated finding(s) linking the alleged perpetrator(s) action(s) to the fatality or near fatality and/or (3) Results of the Medical Examiner's report.



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\*\* Information released after July 3, 2015 provides reports, or any current or past cases, of abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the alleged perpetrator pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807.01(A)(1)(e).  
Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.