



Preliminary Report	Near Fatality	11/17/16
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- 1. Near Fatality Victim:** 5-month-old female
- 2. Date of notification to DCS:** 3/15/16
- 3. Date of near fatality:** 3/15/16
- 4. Date of determination that the near fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 6/6/16
- 5. County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Apache County
- 6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Amber Rawls – age 16 – Apache County

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

On March 15, 2016, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 5-month-old baby who had been taken to the hospital after having seizures at home. The baby was found to be in critical condition with injuries including an acute subdural hematoma on her head, bleeding in the brain, retinal hemorrhages in both eyes, and four fractured ribs approximately two weeks old. The allegation of neglect pertaining to the mother, Amber Rawls, was substantiated for inflicting abuse and/or allowing the child to be abused as well as for neglecting the child by failing to protect.

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 the following prior report involving Amber Rawls and the near fatality victim:

On February 10, 2016, report was received alleging neglect to the child by her mother, Amber Rawls. The investigation assessed the baby as safe with her mother and the allegation was unsubstantiated. The mother declined voluntary in-home services offered by the Department and the case was closed.

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

A joint investigation is being conducted with the Apache County Sheriff's Office.

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

Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed in licensed foster care. Another child who lived part time in the home was assessed as safe with that child's other parent.

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.



Arizona Department of Child Safety

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Gregory McKay
Director

** 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.