



Summary Report	Near Fatality	9/10/15
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1. Near Fatality Victim: 6-month-old male

2. Was the child residing in the child's home or in an out-of-home placement at the time of the near fatality?

The child was residing in an out-of-home placement when the following incident occurred:

On December 8, 2013, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 6-month-old male who was brought to the hospital after being found unresponsive in the foster home where he was being cared for. The child was found to have bleeding in his brain and retinal hemorrhaging that was suspected to be non-accidental. The investigation found that the injuries occurred while the baby was in the foster parents care. Following a review by the Arizona Office of Administrative Hearings, the allegations of neglect by the foster parents, Mario and Veronica Rodriguez, were substantiated on June 8, 2015.

3. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in the child's home, the following information will be provided:

a. Services being provided to the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect at the time of the incident and the date of the last contact before the incident between the entity providing services and the person receiving services:

N/A

b. Was the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect the subject of a report for investigation at the time of the incident?

N/A

c. All involvement of the child's parents and of the person suspected of the abuse or neglect in a situation for which a report for investigation was made or in services provided pursuant to this chapter in the five years preceding the incident:

N/A

d. Any investigation pursuant to a report for investigation concerning the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect or services provided to the child or the child's family since the date of the incident involving the near fatality:

N/A

4. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in an out-of-home placement, the following information will be provided:

a. Licensing Agency: Arizona's Children Association



b. Licensing history of the out-of-home placement, including the type of license held by the operator of the placement and the period for which the placement has been licensed:

The out-of-home placement was initially licensed on July 17, 2013 for two children, male or female, ages 0-6 years. The license expired on July 16, 2014 and was not renewed by the licensing agency.

c. Summary of all violations by the licensee:

In October 2013, the following violations were reported as deficiencies on a safety inspection: (1) A system was needed to keep household toxic chemicals secured, (2) A system was needed to keep refrigerated medications locked, and (3) The hot water temperature needs to be below 120 degrees. These violations resulted in an Immediate Action Letter to make the necessary corrections.

A second licensing violation was initiated on December 8, 2013 regarding the near fatality incident. The violation was jointly investigated by DCS and the Tucson Police Department. The licensee closed their application during the investigation and it was not renewed.

d. Any other actions by the licensee or an employee of the licensee that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of a child:

None.

5. Actions taken by the department in response to the case including any changes to policy or practice and/or recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes:

A Fatality/Near Fatality Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) reviewed the case and determined that the investigation of the near fatality report was conducted by the Department of Child Safety in accordance with policy and procedure. No changes to policy or practice were recommended as a result of the review.