



Summary Report	Near Fatality	11/5/15
----------------	---------------	---------

1. Near Fatality Victim: 1-year-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 his home when the following incident occurred:

On August 3, 2015, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a one-year-old boy who had been admitted to the hospital on July 31, 2015 due to severe malnourishment. It was reported that the child weighed 14.5 pounds at his one-year check-up and had previously weighed 28 pounds at his six-month check-up. The child's mother, Diana Vazquez, stated she had stopped breastfeeding him after the six-month check-up due to him being in the 98th percentile of weight at that time. On August 4, 2015, the mother was charged with child abuse. The DCS investigation determined that the mother's boyfriend, Thomas Smith, neglected the child by failing to provide him with adequate nutrition. It was also determined that the child's father, Matthew Harrington, failed to protect him from neglect. The allegations of neglect pertaining to both Mr. Smith and Mr. Harrington have been substantiated.

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:

No services were being provided to the family by the Department of Child Safety at the time of the incident.

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?

No.

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:

There has been no prior DCS involvement with Diana Vazquez, Thomas Smith, or Matthew Harrington.

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:

The investigation into the near fatality resulted in the child's mother, Diana Vazquez, being arrested for child abuse. The Department also determined that the mother's boyfriend, Thomas Smith, neglected the child by failing to provide him with adequate nutrition. It was also



determined that the child's father, Matthew Harrington, failed to protect him from neglect. The allegations of neglect pertaining to both Mr. Smith and Mr. Harrington have been substantiated.

Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed in a licensed foster home and the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Juvenile Court. The Department is providing services to the family and no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect have been received.

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:

N/A

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:

N/A

c. Summary of all violations by the licensee:

N/A

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.

N/A

5. Actions taken by the Department – both in response to the investigation of the fatality or in general:

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