



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

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 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.

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:

The child and his parents have no prior involvement with the Department of Child Safety.

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, Abigail Silva, being arrested for child abuse. The Department also found the father, Raul Mejia II, failed to protect the child from physical abuse by the mother. Upon release from the hospital, the child was placed with relatives and the Department filed a dependency petition with the Pima 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 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 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.