

Information for Release

3/13/2012

**Date of the notification to CPS:** 3/12/2012

**Fatality**

**The date the child suffered the fatality:** 2/5/2012

**Child's name:** Patrick Smith

**Age at time of incident:** 1 Year

**Perpetrator(s):** Donna Smith

**Age:** 21

**City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s):** Both the child and perpetrator were residing in Oro Valley at the time of the incident.

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

On or about Feb. 10, 2012, it was reported that Donna Smith, mother, contacted 911 when she checked on Patrick in his crib and found him to be blue. EMTs pronounced Patrick dead at the home. Police were investigating at the time of the death but did not know if there was any foul play involved with the child's death. It is alleged that mother gave the child a lethal dosage of methadone.

**B. Whether CPS has received any reports or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian\* :**

CPS has received one prior report alleging abuse or neglect of Patrick Smith by Donna Smith.

On or about July 31, 2010, Donna Smith neglected Patrick Smith, newborn, when she failed to provide supervision and shelter as she admitted to using Tylenol with codeine, which was not prescribed to her, during her pregnancy causing Patrick to test positive for opiates at birth; she has a history of heroin abuse, is unemployed, and is without the means to independently care for Patrick, placing him at risk of injury, malnutrition, dehydration, exposure to illegal substances, cognitive and developmental delays, and death. Services offered included substance abuse treatment, parenting education, and professional case management. The case was substantiated.

**1. Actions taken by CPS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:**

CPS is conducting a joint investigation with the Oro Valley Police Department.

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

There are no other children in the home.

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

The investigation is ongoing; whether services will be provided will be determined when it is completed.

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\*Posted information provides whether there have been reports or any current or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).

Information, if any, regarding other family or household members and the child or the alleged perpetrator is not posted on the Web site. Calls to the Child Abuse Hotline that do not meet the criteria of a report because they do not contain allegations of abuse or neglect (or because there is no information provided to locate the child or family) are not posted.