

<b>Information for Release</b>		12/18/2009
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**Date of the notification to CPS:** 2/7/2009

**Fatality**

**The date the child suffered the fatality:** 2/8/2009

**Child's name:** Ruben Diaz

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

**Perpetrator(s):** Martin Rodriguez

**Age:** 23

**City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s):** Ruben was from Bullhead City. Martin Rodriguez is from Ft. Mohave.

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

On Feb. 7, Ruben arrived at the emergency room with severe head trauma which was believed to have been caused by abuse. Ruben was reported to be in "very critical" condition with small bruising near his left ear, a fractured skull and several fractured vertebrae in his neck. The fractured skull caused severe cerebral edema/inter-cranial bleeding resulting in a loss of most brain functions. Ruben did not survive the injuries and died on Feb. 8.

**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 no prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Ruben by Martin.

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

CPS completed a joint investigation with Mohave County Sheriff's Department.

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

Other children living in the home are staying with relatives pending the outcome of the police investigation.

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

The family has been offered services through CPS.

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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.