

Statement on the death of a four-year-old boy

Date Issued: June 4, 2020

On August 14, 2018, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of a four-year-old boy, Anthony Buber.

Anthony was found unresponsive in his home where he was living with his mother, Katherine Buber, and his stepfather, David Withrow.

Anthony was taken to the hospital where doctors observed extensive bruising throughout the child's body.

He was pronounced deceased shortly after arriving at the hospital.

There were no other children living in the home at the time of the child's death since Anthony's siblings were living in the custody of their father.

On December 5, 2018, the Pinal County Medical Examiner finalized Anthony's autopsy.

The cause of death was listed as complications from blunt force abdominal trauma.

The autopsy report noted that Anthony had allegedly fallen from a bunk bed approximately one week prior to his death. The report also stated that inflicted injuries could not be excluded. As a result, the Pinal County Medical Examiner ruled the cause of death as undetermined.

On November 4, 2019, the Department substantiated the allegations of physical abuse and neglect against Ms. Buber and Mr. Withrow due to the child sustaining unexplained injuries while in their care and failure to provide Anthony with medical care after the alleged fall from the bunk bed.

DCS has received no prior history involving David Withrow.

DCS has received the following prior history involving Katherine Buber and/or Anthony Buber:

On May 4, 2011, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Buber neglected Anthony's sibling. According to the report, Ms. Buber and her newborn child tested positive for marijuana. The DCS investigation found evidence to substantiate the allegations. DCS provided in-home services to the family. After the family successfully completed the in-home services, the case was closed.

On February 10, 2017, the Department received a report alleging Anthony and his siblings were neglected by Ms. Buber, and the children's father. According to the report, the children were not being properly supervised. The report also alleged the children were underweight

Recipient Name

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and dirty. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. DCS offered community services to the family, but they declined. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.