



Statement on the death of a 22-month-old-girl

Issue Date: August 21, 2019

On May 31, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of a 22-month-old girl, Harlee Netter.

Harlee was found unresponsive in her home's swimming pool and was transported to the hospital.

Harlee was determined to be in critical condition and died two days later.

After a DCS investigation, the other children were removed from the home and placed in foster care. The Department filed a dependency petition on June 7, 2019 with the Mohave County Superior Court.

On July 23, 2019, the court determined that Harlee's mother, Sharece Hughes, and step-father, Ryan Rothleutner, neglected Harlee by failing to provide her with adequate supervision which led to her death.

DCS has no prior reports involving Harlee or Mr. Rothleutner.

DCS has the following history with Ms. Hughes:

On March 11, 2019, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Hughes neglected one of Harlee's siblings. According to the report, Ms. Hughes and her newborn baby tested positive for marijuana. The Department's investigation could not find evidence to remove the children from the home. DCS referred Ms. Hughes for services through a provider in the community. The allegation was substantiated and the case was closed.