

## **Statement on the fatalities of a nine-year-old girl and a seven-year-old boy**

**Date Issued: May 18, 2021**

The Arizona Department of Child Safety mourns the deaths of two children who were known to us: nine-year-old Mia Inoue and her seven-year-old brother, Kai Inoue.

As the community is struggling to grasp the tragic death of two innocent siblings, the Department is caring for staff who have also been impacted. Our prayers go out to the family and all who knew Mia and Kai, especially their school communities.

On May 15, 2021, the Department received a report regarding the deaths of Mia and Kai.

Both children were found deceased in their home. The children's mother, Yui Inoue, was arrested for two counts of first-degree murder on May 15, 2021.

There were no other children living in the home.

At the time of the fatalities, the family had an open DCS investigation:

On March 2, 2021, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Inoue neglected Kai Inoue. The report alleged that Ms. Inoue took Kai and their whereabouts were unknown. Police eventually located Ms. Inoue and Kai behind a convenience store. Ms. Inoue was taken to a psychiatric hospital and Kai was returned to his father. During the interview, the DCS investigator did not observe any visible signs of abuse or neglect on the children. The children reported they felt safe with their parents. The investigation did not find evidence to remove the children from the home. This investigation was still open at the time of the fatalities.