

Statement on the fatality of a one-year-old boy

Date Issued: April 13, 2021

On October 29, 2020, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of a one-year-old boy, Quince Rowe.

Quince was found unresponsive at home was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased. An autopsy determined Quince had high levels of fentanyl in his system.

Quince Rowe was in the care of his father, Terrance Rowe, when he was found unresponsive. On December 29, 2020, Terrance Rowe was arrested for negligent homicide. There were no other children residing in the home at the time of the incident.

DCS has the following history with Quince and his family:

On June 17, 2015, the Department received a report was alleging Quince's mother and Mr. Rowe neglected Quince's siblings. The report alleged the children were exposed to illicit drug use in the home. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegations. The children were taken into custody and a dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court on June 29, 2015. The parents were offered services by the Department. On February 18, 2016, the court dismissed the case and the children were returned home. The allegations against Mr. Rowe were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on March 15, 2016.

On March 2, 2016, the Department received a report alleging Quince's mother neglected one of his siblings. The report alleged the child was a substance exposed newborn. At the time of the report, the mother and child were in another state. While this case was open, the Department received a report on June 3, 2016, alleging Quince's mother exposed her child to domestic violence. At this time, the family had returned to Arizona. The child was taken into custody and a dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court on June 8, 2016. The mother was provided services by the Department. On October 11, 2017, the court dismissed the case and the child was returned to the custody of the child's father. The allegations of neglect against the mother were substantiated for both reports.

On July 19, 2019, the Department received a report alleging Quince was neglected by his mother and Mr. Rowe. The report alleged Quince tested positive for marijuana when he was born. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegations. Quince Rowe was taken into custody and a dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court on July 24, 2019. The mother and Mr. Rowe were offered services by the Department. On December 2, 2019, the court dismissed the case and the court granted Mr. Rowe sole custody of Quince. The neglect allegation against Mr. Rowe was unsubstantiated. The neglect allegation against Quince's mother was substantiated.

Recipient Name

Page 2

On March 16, 2020, the Department received a report alleging Quince was neglected and physically abused by his mother. The report alleged the mother attacked Mr. Rowe while the children were present. The DCS investigation did not find marks or bruises on Quince indicating child abuse. The Phoenix Police Department investigation determined Mr. Rowe was the victim in the altercation. Quince remained in his father's custody. The allegations against Quince's mother were unsubstantiated. The family was provided information on services in the community and the report was closed on April 16, 2020.

On June 17, 2020, the Department received a report alleging Quince's mother neglected his siblings. The report alleged his siblings were exposed to illicit substance use. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegations. The children were taken into custody and a dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County Superior Court on July 28, 2020. The Department is providing services to the family and the case is ongoing.