

## **Statement on the fatality of a one-month-old boy**

**Date Issued: March 26, 2021**

On November 14, 2019, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of a 1-month-old boy, Rakim Ramsay.

Rakim was found unresponsive in his home by his parents, Latricia Payne and Joshua Ramsay, and taken to the hospital.

Rakim passed away the following day on November 15, 2019.

Prior to Rakim's death, the parents were co-sleeping with the child in their bed, which contributed to the child's death.

After the DCS investigation revealed additional information regarding the family, the Department removed the other children who were living in the home and placed them with a relative.

On December 15, 2020, the Department substantiated the neglect allegation against Mr. Ramsay.

On December 23, 2020, the Department substantiated the neglect allegation against Ms. Payne.

The Department provided services to the family.

DCS does not have prior history with Mr. Ramsay and Rakim.

DCS has the following history with Ms. Payne:

On May 13, 2016, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Payne neglected one of Rakim's siblings. The report alleged the child was exposed to a domestic violence incident that occurred in the home. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegation. The allegation was unsubstantiated and the case was closed.