

Statement on the fatality of a four-month-old girl

Date Issued: August 6, 2021

On May 5, 2020, Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of a four-month-old female, Siren Flowers. Siren was found unresponsive at home.

After Siren's death, the Department filed a dependency petition on May 8, 2020, with the Maricopa County Superior Court regarding the siblings. A motion for termination of parental rights was filed on July 7, 2020. The Maricopa County Superior Court granted the motion on February 11, 2021.

The Department substantiated the allegation of neglect against the child's parents, Lisa and James Flowers.

DCS provided services to the family throughout the dependency matter.

DCS has the following history with the family:

On June 20, 2016, the Department received a report alleging Mr. and Mrs. Flowers neglected and physically abused their children. The report alleged Mr. Flowers picked the child up by his arm and dropped the child. Ultimately, the children were taken into custody due to the concerns of substance use by Mr. and Mrs. Flowers. The children were placed in a licensed foster home. A dependency petition was filed on June 29, 2016, with the Maricopa County Superior Court. The parents were provided with services. The allegations of neglect were substantiated while the physical abuse allegations were unsubstantiated. The dependency matter was ongoing when the next report was received.

On August 28, 2017, the Department received a report alleging Mr. and Mrs. Flowers neglected a child. The report alleges Mrs. Flowers used methamphetamine earlier in the pregnancy. Both the child and Mrs. Flower's drug screens were negative. Following an assessment of child safety, the child was taken into custody and placed in a licensed foster home. A subsequent dependency petition was filed on September 1, 2017, with the Maricopa County Superior Court. The allegations were substantiated as to both parents. The family was provided services. The children were reunified with the mother on March 9, 2018 and the dependency was dismissed on September 24, 2018.

On February 20, 2019, the Department received a report alleging Mrs. Flowers neglected her children. The report alleged the mother was unable to care for one of her children's medical needs. Additionally, it was alleged she was allowing Mr. Flowers to reside in the home even though he was possibly using substances. DCS did not find evidence to support the allegations and the children were assessed as safe. The family was provided with daycare services. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on May 3, 2019.

On May 8, 2019, the Department received a report alleging Mrs. Flowers neglected her children. The report alleged Mrs. Flowers was using marijuana in the presence of her

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children and that she was allowing Mr. Flowers to stay the night. DCS did not find evidence to support the allegations and the children were assessed as safe. The family was provided with daycare services and community resources. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on July 18, 2019.

On January 22, 2020, the Department received a report alleging Mr. and Mrs. Flowers neglected their children. The report alleged Mr. Flowers was heard yelling at the children in the home and possibly using illegal substances. The report alleged the children are left unsupervised. DCS did not find evidence to support the allegations and the children were assessed as safe. There were no services offered to the family. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on April 13, 2020.