

Statement on the death of a 9-year-old girl and the near death of her nine-year-old twin sister

Issue Date: September 12, 2019

On October 27, 2018, the Department of Child Safety received a neglect report regarding the death of a 9-year-old girl, Emily Wade, and the near death of her nine-year-old twin sister.

Emily was killed in single-vehicle accident on October 26, 2018. Her sister was transported to the hospital in critical condition.

Police determined Emily's mother, Tanya Wade, was driving under the influence at the time of the accident.

DCS conducted a joint investigation with the Arizona Department of Public Safety. So far, no charges have been filed in the case.

The Department's investigation did not find enough evidence to remove the near fatality victim or the other children living in the home.

The Department offered in-home services to the family, but they declined.

The allegation was substantiated and the case was closed.

DCS has the following history with the family:

On September 6, 2017, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Wade neglected Emily and her siblings. The report also alleged the children's father physically abused them. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.