

Statement on the fatality of two-month-old boy, Gregnacio Hernandez

Date Issued: August 31, 2022

On June 25, 2021, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 2-month-old child who was taken to the hospital after being found unresponsive. The child was pronounced deceased at the hospital and tested positive for methamphetamine. The child had been in the care of his parents.

Following an assessment of child safety, the other child in the home was removed and placed with a relative. The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court on June 30, 2021. On February 1, 2022, the Maricopa County Superior Court found the parents, Tatiana Gabaldon and Luis Hernandez, caused the death of the child from their use of and exposure to methamphetamine.

The Department provided services to the family.

DCS received the following prior report involving Tatiana Gabaldon and Luis Hernandez:

On January 21, 2021, the Department received a report alleging neglect to a child by Ms. Gabaldon and Mr. Hernandez. The report alleged the parents were smoking methamphetamine while the child was in the home. The report also alleged there was a lot of fighting in the home. During the investigation, the parents were drug tested and were not positive for methamphetamine. The family was offered daycare, which was declined. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on March 22, 2021.