

Statement on the death of a three-year-old girl

Date Issued: January 20, 2022

On August 30, 2020, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a three-year-old girl, Delilah Jones, who was found unresponsive in her mother's car. It was alleged on the afternoon of August 30th, while mother was sleeping, Delilah left the apartment and entered her mother's car.

After Ms. Jones awoke, she contacted the Phoenix Police Department to report that Delilah was missing.

Officers found Delilah inside the car shortly after arriving at the home. She was taken to a hospital where she was pronounced deceased.

There were no other children residing in the home at the time of Delilah's death.

The Department has the following history with Tianna Jones and Delilah Jones:

On October 4, 2017, DCS received a report alleging Ms. Jones neglected Delilah. According to the report, Ms. Jones was overfeeding the child and may have been involved in a domestic violence incident with another adult in the home. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. Ms. Jones and the other adult denied the domestic violence incident occurred. The child did not have any visible marks or bruises. The child did appear above a normal weight for a three-month-old baby. DCS had Ms. Jones consult with the child's pediatrician. The pediatrician recommended a new feeding schedule for the child. DCS offered the family in-home services, but they declined to participate. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On May 31, 2018, DCS received a report alleging Ms. Jones neglected Delilah. According to the report, Ms. Jones abuse of illicit drugs was preventing her from properly caring for Delilah. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegations. The Department removed Delilah from the home and placed her in foster care. Ms. Jones successfully completed DCS services. The court ordered Delilah to return to Ms. Jones' home in November 2019. Ms. Jones and Delilah received DCS in-home case management until March 2020 when the case was closed. The family continued receiving aftercare services through a community agency until May 2020.