



Statement on the near fatality of a 10-month-old boy

Issue Date: August 21, 2019

On November 10, 2018, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a neglect report regarding the near fatality of a 10-month-old boy.

The child arrived at the hospital in critical condition after ingesting methamphetamines.

The Department immediately removed the other child who was living in the home and placed the child in foster care. After the near fatality victim was released from the hospital, DCS also placed him in foster care. The two children were eventually placed with relatives.

The Department filed a dependency petition in Maricopa County Juvenile Court.

On May 2, 2019, the court determined that the mother, Emilia Infante, had neglected the near fatality victim by failing to provide proper supervision.

The Department is providing services to the family.

DCS has the following history involving Ms. Infante and/or the near fatality victim:

On February 13, 2018, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Infante neglected the near fatality victim. According to the report, both Ms. Infante and the near fatality victim tested positive for marijuana. The DCS investigation could not find enough evidence to warrant removing the child from the home. Ms. Infante was offered DCS services, but she declined. The allegation was substantiated and the case was closed.

On June 14, 2018, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Infante neglected the near fatality victim and his sibling. According to the report, Ms. Infante could not provide proper food, clothing or shelter for the children. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. DCS provided the family with information on community resources. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

On October 25, 2018, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Infante neglected the near fatality victim and his sibling. According to the report, Ms. Infante was not providing proper food, clothing or shelter for the children. While DCS was investigating this report, the Department received another report on October 27, 2018, alleging Ms. Infante was not properly caring for the children. Both of these reports also involved investigations by the El Mirage Police Department.

Recipient Name

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Although the Department initiated its investigation, it could not locate the family. Due to the severity of the allegations and police involvement, the Department requested, and received, a removal order from Maricopa County Superior Court on October 29, 2018. However, the Department could not locate the family prior to receiving the near fatality report on November 10, 2018.

Both October reports were eventually substantiated.