



## **Statement on the near fatality of a 9-month-old girl.**

**Date Issued: October 6, 2021**

On June 4, 2021, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 9-month-old female who was taken to the hospital in critical condition after being found unresponsive at home. Upon examination, it was determined the child tested positive for amphetamines.

Following an assessment of child safety, the near fatality victim was removed and placed in foster care.

The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court on June 21, 2021.

The Department substantiated the allegations of neglect and is providing services to the family.

DCS received the following prior report involving Vanessa Lopez and the near fatality victim:

On August 29, 2020, a report was received alleging neglect to the child by her mother, Vanessa Lopez. The report alleged the child was born substance exposed to fentanyl and methamphetamine. The investigation resulted in a safety plan being implemented. The allegation was substantiated and the case was transferred for in-home monitoring while the parents completed services within the community. The safety plan was lifted and the case was closed on April 20, 2021.