

Statement on the near fatality of a fifteen-year-old male and five-year-old female

Date Issued: December 21, 2022

On November 19, 2022, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the near fatalities of a 15-year-old male and 5-year-old female who had been shot by their father, Derek Tighe. They were transported to the hospital and determined to be in critical condition.

Following an assessment of child safety, the near fatality victims were assessed as safe with their mother.

The investigation determined the father, Derek Tighe, shot the children and then committed suicide.

The Department offered services to the family.

DCS received the following prior report involving Mr. Tighe:

On February 20, 2022, the Department received a report alleging neglect and physical abuse to the children by Mr. Tighe and their mother. The report alleged Mr. Tighe and the children's mother were in a verbal argument in a parking lot and Mr. Tighe left the children and mother and returned home. Later that day the mother and children arrived at Mr. Tighe's residence and Mr. Tighe threatened the mother with a gun. Mr. Tighe was arrested as a result. A DCS investigation was initiated and still in progress when the near fatality incident occurred. The DCS investigation ultimately resulted in the allegations regarding Mr. Tighe being proposed to substantiate-perpetrator deceased. The allegations regarding the mother were unsubstantiated. Services were offered to the family. The case was closed on December 05, 2022.