

Statement on the near fatality of a three-year-old boy

Date Issued: August 20, 2021

On March 7, 2021, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the near fatality of a 3-year-old child who was taken to the hospital in an altered state. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical condition due to marijuana ingestion after potentially eating a gummy roll that contained THC.

Following an assessment of child safety, the near fatality victim and his siblings were assessed as safe with their parents.

On August 9, 2021, the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect of the child by his parents, Justin Fields and Ashley Fishnich AKA Fields.

The Department provided services to the family. The family completed the services and the case was closed on June 30, 2021.

DCS received the following prior report involving Mr. Fields:

On July 11, 2019, the Department received a report alleging neglect to children by Mr. Fields. The report alleged a 15-year-old had been attacked by an adult male and Mr. Fields did not want medical attention for the child and would not allow officers access to the child. There were additional concerns alleging a 13-year-old was around known drug users. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The allegations were unsubstantiated and no services were offered to the family. The case was closed on September 26, 2019.