

Statement on the fatality of a seven-month-old boy, Dominic Aleff:

Date Issued: June 14, 2022

On January 10, 2020, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the fatality of a 7-month-old child who was found unresponsive at home. The child was transported to the hospital, where he was pronounced deceased. Dominic was in the care of his mother, Erika Wahab, and her significant other, Sean Constantino.

There were no other children in the home at the time of the fatality.

An autopsy was conducted and it was determined there were high levels of fentanyl and other substances found in Dominic's system.

On October 26, 2021, the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect and physical abuse of Dominc Aleff by Sean Constantino.

On March 2, 2022, the mother, Erika Wahab, was arrested for one count of 2nd degree murder and one count of child abuse.

The Department provided information of services in the community to the family.

DCS received the following prior report involving Ms. Wahab:

On October 12, 2015, the Department received a report alleging neglect to a child by Ms. Wahab. The report alleged the child was born with substances in their system. The DCS investigation resulted in the child coming into DCS custody. Services were provided to the family. Ultimately, the parental rights to the child were terminated on May 31, 2017. The allegations were substantiated and the case was closed on September 15, 2017.

On May 17, 2019, the Department received a report alleging neglect to Dominic Aleff by Ms. Wahab. The report alleged Dominc was born with methadone in his system. The DCS investigation determined Ms. Wahab had been participating in a methadone program. DCS offered the family in-home services. The family completed services successfully in October 2019. The allegation was unsubstantiated and the case was closed on October 29, 2019.