

Statement on the fatality of eight-month-old, Chase Miles

Date Issued: April 3, 2023

On July 20, 2021, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the fatality of 8-month-old, Chase Miles. The child was found unresponsive after co-sleeping with his parents, Kaylen Shaffer and Christopher Miles. He was pronounced deceased at the home. The child was residing with an unlicensed relative under a safety plan due an ongoing dependency matter. The relative allowed unsupervised contact between Chase Miles and his parents, Kaylen Shaffer and Christopher Miles.

There were no other children residing in the home.

On February 17, 2023, the Department substantiated allegations of neglect by the parents, Kaylen Shaffer and Christopher Miles towards Chase Miles.

The Department did not provide services to the family after the fatality incident. The family had been offered services prior to the fatality.

DCS received the following prior report involving Ms. Shaffer and Mr. Miles:

On October 13, 2020, the Department received a report alleging neglect to Chase Miles by Ms. Shaffer and Mr. Miles. The report alleged Chase Miles was born substance exposed to methamphetamine. The DCS investigation resulted in Chase Miles coming into DCS custody. A dependency petition was filed with the Pima County Juvenile Court. Services were being provided to the family. The allegations of neglect by Ms. Shaffer and Mr. Miles were substantiated. The case was still open when the fatality report was received.