

## Statement on the near fatality of a two-year-old male

**Date Issued: January 23, 2024**

On December 22, 2021 the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 2-year-old child who was taken to the hospital by ambulance after becoming unresponsive at home. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical condition due to fentanyl ingestion. The investigation determined the caregivers allowed a known substance user in the home on multiple occasions, including the day of the incident when the child became unresponsive.

Following an assessment of child safety, the near fatality victim and their siblings were assessed as safe in the home. The family was referred for and completed in-home services with the Department. The case was closed on September 16, 2022.

On August 6, 2023, the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect to the child by their grandparents, Leslie Davis and Phillip Chambers, and by their mother, Keshia Chambers.

There were no prior DCS reports involving Phillip Chambers as an alleged perpetrator.

DCS received the following prior reports involving the child's mother, Keshia Chambers, and the grandmother, Leslie Davis:

On May 1, 2006, a report was received alleging neglect to three children by their mother, Leslie Davis. The report alleged that the mother is in a domestic violence relationship with another adult who is physically aggressive towards the children. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The family was offered and declined services. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on June 8, 2006.

On January 30, 2007, a report was received alleging neglect to two children by their mother, Leslie Davis. The report alleged Leslie and another adult are using substances and not meeting the children's basic needs. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The family was offered and declined services. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on April 13, 2007.

On March 19, 2012, a report was received after a private dependency petition was filed with the Maricopa County juvenile court alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Leslie Davis. The dependency petition alleged that the mother was unable or unwilling to parent due to the child's delinquent behaviors. The allegation was substantiated. The Department provided services to the family and the dependency was dismissed on August 8, 2013.

On November 13, 2015, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by Keshia Chambers. The report alleged that Keshia physically abused the child. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegation.

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The allegation was unsubstantiated and the case was closed on January 12, 2016. The family was provided with information on services available in the community.

On December 11, 2018, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child by Keshia Chambers. The report alleged a child to have visible bruising and they disclosed having been physically disciplined by Keshia a few days prior. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegation. The allegation was unsubstantiated and the case was closed on April 10, 2019. The family was provided with information on services available in the community.

On August 8, 2020, a report was received alleging neglect and physical abuse to the child and their siblings by their grandmother, Leslie Davis, and another adult. The report alleged a physical fight between the grandmother and another adult in the home occurred around the children and caused physical injury to one of the children. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed on November 13, 2020. The mother was offered and declined daycare and community resources.

On April 10, 2021, a report was received alleging neglect and physical abuse to the child by his mother, Keshia Chambers, and his grandmother, Leslie Davis. The report alleged a verbal altercation between Keshia and Leslie escalated to a physical altercation, during which the child was struck by the grandmother. The investigation did not find evidence to support the allegations. The children were assessed as safe in the mother's care and the allegations were unsubstantiated. The mother was offered and declined services from the Department. The case was closed on June 1, 2021.