

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

Date Issued: March 15, 2023

On July 10, 2022, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a two-year-old male that was taken to the hospital after he was having difficulty breathing. The child was determined to be in critical condition and tested positive for methadone, fentanyl, and benzodiazepine. The child had been in the care of his parents, Larissa McGuire and Steven Ybarra.

The Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court on July 13, 2022. On October 5 and November 10, 2022, the Court found Mr. Ybarra and Ms. McGuire failed to protect the child from accessing dangerous drugs.

The Department is providing services to the family.

DCS received the following prior report involving Ms. McGuire:

On November 25, 2019, a report was received alleging neglect to the child by his mother, Larissa McGuire. The report alleged the child was born substance exposed to methadone and that her last use of heroin was when she found out she was pregnant. The DCS investigation assessed the child as safe with his mother and the allegation was unsubstantiated. The family was already receiving services within the community and the case was closed on January 6, 2020.