

## **Statement on the near fatality of a three-month-old boy**

**Date Issued: March 31, 2023**

On June 23, 2020, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 3-month-old male that was taken to the hospital with difficulty breathing. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical condition with an array of injuries and head trauma. The child had been residing with a relative under a safety plan. The safety plan was violated and the child was in the care of his parents, Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen, when the incident occurred.

Following an assessment of child safety, the other child in the home was placed in a foster home. Upon release from the hospital, the near fatality victim was placed in the same foster home.

The Department provided services to the family and on May 5, 2022, the Maricopa County Superior Court terminated the parental rights to the children. The Court found the parents abused and/or failed to protect the child from abuse and the Department substantiated the allegations.

DCS received the following prior report involving Vashti Rogers and Jimmy Nguyen:

On April 22, 2020, a report was received alleging physical abuse and neglect to the child by the parents. The report alleged the child had fallen from the father's arms and had no apparent injury. When the child awoke from a nap, the child's eyes were bloodshot and was taken to the hospital. The child had multiple injuries that did not match the parent's explanation. A present danger plan was put in place to ensure the children's safety while the investigation continued. The children were removed and placed with a relative with a safety plan in place. On May 27, 2020, the Department filed a dependency with the Maricopa County Superior Court. The case was open when the near fatality incident occurred. On February 22, 2021, the Maricopa County Superior Court found the parents abused the child and the Department substantiated the allegations.