

**Amendments to the information originally posted on 4/19/2021 are displayed below in red.**

## **Statement on the death of one-year-old Zaniyah Quiroz**

**Date Issued: July 30, 2024**

On July 30, 2019, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding the death of a 1-year-old child, Zaniyah Quiroz. Zaniyah arrived at the hospital after sustaining an accidental gunshot wound. Zaniyah passed away the following day.

DCS removed Zaniyah's sibling from the home and filed a dependency petition with the Pima County Superior Court on August 2, 2019.

On September 23, 2019, the court found Zaniyah's sibling dependent as to the mother, Analisa Molina, and the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect. **On 7/9/2024, the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect by the maternal grandmother, Cecilia Canez, who resided in the home with and cared for the child at the time of her death.**

The Department **was** providing services to the family.

DCS has received the following prior report involving Ms. Molina:

On July 24, 2019, the Department received a report alleging Ms. Molina neglected Zaniyah's sibling. According to the report, the young child was alone outside and was not being properly supervised. DCS was investigating the allegation when it received the fatality report. The allegation of neglect was substantiated. The case **closed** and the family **was** participating in DCS services.

**DCS received the following prior reports involving Ms. Canez:**

**On August 8, 2004, the Department received a report alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Cecilia Canez, and sexual abuse by another adult in the home. The report alleged the child was being sexually abused by another adult in the home. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegation of sexual abuse. The child and their sibling were assessed as safe in their father's care. The allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated and the allegation of sexual abuse was substantiated. The Department offered counseling and daycare services to the family. The case closed on September 9, 2004.**

**On March 25, 2006, the Department received a report alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Cecilia Canez, and sexual abuse by another adult. The report alleged the other adult moved back into Ms. Canez's home and was sexually abusing the child. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegations. The family was referred to intensive in-home services with a safety plan and were provided community resources to seek counseling services. The allegations of neglect and sexual abuse were substantiated. The case closed on April 4, 2006.**

On May 19, 2006, the Department received a report alleging neglect to a child by their mother, Cecilia Canez. The report alleged the other adult has been coming into the home and believes the child is lying about the ongoing sexual abuse. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegation. The allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated and the family was still engaged with intensive in-home services at the time of the report. The case closed on June 6, 2006.

On November 30, 2006, the Department received a report alleging neglect toward children by their mother, Cecilia Canez. The report alleged the other adult moved back into the home despite Ms. Canez being aware of the ongoing sexual abuse. The DCS investigation found evidence to support the allegation of neglect. The children were taken into DCS custody and an out of home dependency petition was filed. The Department offered reunification services which were unsuccessful and a guardianship petition was filed. The guardianship petition was granted for the children to stay in the care of family members. The case was closed on August 5, 2008.