

## Statement on the near-death of a 1-month-old female

**Date Issued: October 30, 2024**

On October 19, 2023, the Arizona Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a 1-month-old female whose parents transported her to the hospital after observing abnormal body movements. Upon examination, the child was determined to be in critical condition and experiencing seizures. Multiple injuries, including fractures and brain bleeds, were found indicating non-accidental trauma.

Following an assessment of child safety, the child was removed and placed with relatives upon her release from the hospital. There were no other children in the home.

On October 24, 2023, the Department filed a dependency petition with the Maricopa County Superior Court. On December 5, 2023, the court found the child dependent as to her parents, Ms. Finnigan and Mr. Guillen, due to abuse and/or neglect.

The Department is providing services to the family.

There are no prior DCS reports involving Ms. Finnigan as an alleged perpetrator.

DCS received the following prior report involving Mr. Guillen and the near fatality victim:

On September 29, 2023, the Department of Child Safety received a report alleging physical abuse to the near fatality victim by her father, Mr. Guillen. The report alleged that Mr. Guillen had caused bruising to the child while pushing the child's knees to her chest to aid in gas relief and that the child obtained a bruise under her eye when left unattended during tummy time. The report was also investigated with law enforcement. Law enforcement did not find evidence of a crime. The allegations of physical abuse by Mr. Guillen were unsubstantiated and the case remained open when the near fatality report was received.