

Information for Release		5/30/2013
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Date of the notification to CPS: 5/25/2012

Near Fatality

The date the child suffered the near fatality: 5/25/2012

Child's name: Terrence

Age at time of incident: 17 Months

Perpetrator(s): Rebecca Witbeck, Dewayne Franklin

Age: 30, 49

City, town or general location of residence of the child and perpetrator(s): At the time of the incident, the child and alleged perpetrators were living in Tucson, Arizona.

A. Circumstances of the fatality or near fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:

On May 25, 2012, Rebecca Witbeck and Dewayne Franklin neglected their child, Terrence when the child was found unconscious, nonresponsive, and suffering from severe respiratory distress. Terrence tested positive for opiates. Terrence suffered a severe cerebral infarction with the possibility of cortical blindness due to ingesting opiates. A search of the father's home found Morphine within reach of the child.

B. Whether CPS has received any reports or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian* :

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) had received no prior reports alleging abuse or neglect of Terrence by Rebecca Witbeck or Dewayne Franklin.

1. Actions taken by CPS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:

Arizona Child Protective Services (CPS) conducted a joint investigation with Pima County Sherriff's Office.

2. Actions taken regarding the child and/or other children in the home:

Following an assessment of the child safety, upon release from the hospital, the child was placed in a foster home and his siblings were placed with relatives.

3. Whether the agency is or intends to provide direct services or service referrals to the family:

Services offered to the family included substance abuse treatment, visitation, and case management services.

*Posted information provides whether there have been reports or any current or past cases of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).

Information, if any, regarding other family or household members and the child or the alleged perpetrator is not posted on the Web site. Calls to the Child Abuse Hotline that do not meet the criteria of a report because they do not contain allegations of abuse or neglect (or because there is no information provided to locate the child or family) are not posted.