



Summary Report	Fatality	09/13/2022
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1. Victim: Logan Seiser – newborn male

2. Was the child residing in the child's home or in an out-of-home placement at the time of the fatality?

The child was residing in his home when the following incident occurred:

On May 6, 2022, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a deceased newborn male who was brought to the hospital by Ms. Bell. The child appeared to be severely malnourished. Upon investigation it was determined the mother, Ms. Seiser, had given the newborn to Ms. Bell days prior, as she was unable to care for the child. On May 12, 2022, Ms. Bell and Ms. Seiser were charged with first degree murder and child abuse.

3. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in the child's home, the following information will be provided:

a. Services being provided to the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect at the time of the incident and the date of the last contact before the incident between the entity providing services and the person receiving services:

There were no services being provided to the family by the Department of Child Safety at the time of the incident.

b. Was the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect the subject of a report for investigation at the time of the incident?

No.

c. All involvement of the child's parents and of the person suspected of the abuse or neglect in a situation for which a report for investigation was made or in services provided pursuant to this chapter in the five years preceding the incident:

DCS received the following prior reports involving Jessica Seiser:

On September 9, 2018, a report was received alleging neglect to a child by Ms. Seiser. The child was removed and placed in foster care. A dependency petition was filed and the allegation was substantiated. A safety plan remained in place for the other children as to both parents. The child was eventually adopted and the other children remained with their father.

DCS received the following prior reports involving Nancy Bell:

On May 11, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to three children by Ms. Bell. The allegations were unsubstantiated and the case was closed.



On September 7, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to two children by Ms. Bell. The case remained open when additional reports were received. This allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated.

On October 6, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to three children by Ms. Bell. The case remained open and the allegations of neglect were substantiated in relation to the subsequent report that was received on October 17, 2017.

On October 17, 2017, a report was received alleging neglect to three children by Ms. Bell. The children were removed and placed in foster care. A dependency petition was filed and the Department substantiated the allegations. The dependency was dismissed in 2019 after a permanent guardianship was established.

d. Any investigation pursuant to a report for investigation concerning the child, a member of the child's family or the person suspected of the abuse or neglect or services provided to the child or the child's family since the date of the incident involving the fatality:

The investigation of the fatality report resulted in Jessica Seiser and Nancy Bell being charged with first degree murder and child abuse on May 12, 2022. The Department filed dependency petitions on May 16 and May 25, 2022, with the Coconino County Superior Court regarding Ms. Seiser's and Ms. Bell's children, respectively. The Department is providing services to the families. There have been no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect received regarding the families.

4. If the victim in the Preliminary Report involved a child residing in an out-of-home placement, the following information will be provided:

a. Licensing Agency:

N/A

b. Licensing history of the out-of-home placement, including the type of license held by the operator of the placement and the period for which the placement has been licensed:

N/A

c. Summary of all violations by the licensee:

N/A

d. Any other actions by the licensee or an employee of the licensee that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of a child.

N/A

5. Actions taken by the Department in response to the case including any changes to policy or practice and/or recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes:

The Department conducted a joint investigation with the Page Police Department. The mother, Jessica Seiser, and the other adult, Nancy Bell, were arrested and charged with first degree murder and child abuse on May 12, 2022. The Department filed dependency petitions on May 16 and May 25, 2022, with the Coconino County Superior Court regarding Ms. Seiser's and Ms. Bell's children,



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Mike Faust, Director
Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

respectively. The Department is providing services to the families. There have been no subsequent reports of abuse or neglect received regarding the families.

Additionally, in accordance with the DCS Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16), multidisciplinary team (MDT) reviews of fatality and near fatality cases were implemented during the first quarter of FY16. The MDT reviews fatality and near fatality cases with prior DCS involvement, which are a key feature of the Strategic Plan and supports the objective of increasing the accuracy of safety and risk assessments in investigations.

Cases are reviewed by the MDT in order to identify any systemic factors, both internal and external to the Department that may have had an impact. The Department uses the aggregate data gathered through all of the MDT reviews to assess and guide future changes and/or recommendations to policies, practices, rules or statutes. Findings from these reviews are compiled into an annual report to be shared on the DCS website. The target date for release of the next report is December 1, 2022.

For more information regarding the Department of Child Safety's Strategic Plan for State Fiscal Year 2016, please visit the DCS website.