Preliminary Report	Fatality	05/29/2025

1. **Victim:** Josiah Hankston – 2-year-old male

2. **Date of notification to DCS:** 5/22/2022

3. **Date of fatality:** 5/21/2022

4. **Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*:** 5/28/2025

5. **County and general location of the residence of the victim:** Maricopa County – Gilbert, AZ

6. **Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:**

Latasha Conway – age 40 – Phoenix, AZ

7. **Circumstances of the fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:**

On May 22, 2022, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 2-year-old Josiah Hankston, who drowned in the pool at home while in his mother's care. The child was not seen for several hours before being located, unresponsive, in the pool. He was pronounced deceased the same day. The medical examiner determined that the cause of death was drowning. On May 20, 2025, the Department substantiated the allegation of neglect to Josiah by his mother, Latasha Conway.

8. **Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the current alleged perpetrator(s)**:**

There were no prior DCS reports involving Latasha Conway and/or Josiah Hankston.

9. **Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality:**

A joint investigation was conducted with the Gilbert Police Department.

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

The other children in the home where the incident occurred were determined to be safe in the care of their parents.

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

The Department provided the family with information on services available in the community.

P.O. Box 6030 ♦ Site Code C010-23 ♦ Phoenix, AZ 85005-6030
Telephone (602) 255-2500

*The determination that a fatality or near fatality is the result of abuse, abandonment or neglect is based one or more of the following criteria: (1) The perpetrator(s) arrest related to the incident, (2) Substantiated finding(s) linking the alleged perpetrator(s) action(s) to the fatality or near fatality and/or (3) Results of the Medical Examiner's report.

** Information released after July 3, 2015 provides reports, or any current or past cases, of abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the alleged perpetrator pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807.01(A)(1)(e).
Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.

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