Statement on the death of 4-month-old Remy Rosales, the death of 9-year-old Ezra Mejia, the near death of an 11-year-old male, and the near death of a 5-year-old female

Date Issued: August 13, 2025

On April 3, 2024, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding a motor vehicle accident involving several children that were not properly restrained. The accident resulted in the fatality of two children, Ezra Mejia and Remy Rosales, and the near fatality of two of their siblings, an 11-year-old male and a 5-year-old female. The investigation resulted in a determination that the accident was caused when the children's mother, Cecilia Mendez Taboada, fell asleep while driving.

Following an assessment of child safety, the near fatality victims were assessed as safe with both of their parents.

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

On July 15, 2025, the Department substantiated the allegations of neglect and physical abuse to Remy Rosales, Ezra Mejia, an 11-year-old male, and a 5-year-old female by their mother, Cecilia Mendez Taboada.

DCS received the following prior report involving Ms. Mendez Taboada:

On March 5, 2022, a report was received alleging physical abuse to a child, Ezra Mejia, by his mother, Ms. Mendez Taboada. The report alleged that the mother ran over the child's foot after he attempted to jump into her moving vehicle and missed. The DCS investigation did not find evidence to support the allegation of physical abuse. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The family was provided with information on services available in the community and the case was closed.

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