CHILD WELFARE AGENCY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FORM

Date: 01/16/2025
Agency Name: DCFS- Lyon County District Office
Agency Address: 55 N. Center #3 Fernley, NV 89408
Date of written notification to the Division of Child and Family Services and Legislative Auditor: 01/16/2025
Internal reference UNITY Case Number:1473759

X Child Fatality Date of Death: 1/16/25
Near Fatality Date of Near Fatality:
Portions of information on this form have been withheld at the request of (Name of agency) law enforcement agency.

INFORMATION FOR RELEASE

A. Date of the notification to the child welfare agency of the fatality/near fatality of a child: 01/16/2025

B. Location of child at the time of death or near fatality (city/county): Reno, NV

C. A summary of the report of abuse or neglect and a factual description of the contents of the report: reported methamphetamine use by mom while pregnant; babies born at 26 weeks life-flighted to local medical center in critical condition; on 1/16/25 one of the babies was pronounced deceased at local Medical Center

D. The date of birth and gender of child: 01/11/2025 male

E. The date that the child suffered the fatality or near fatality: 01/16/2025

F. The cause of the fatality or near fatality, if such information has been determined: Cause of fatality undetermined but there is an active investigation by DCFS and Lyon County Sheriff 24LY00147

G. Whether the agency had any contact with the child or a member of the child's family or household before the fatality or near fatality and, if so…

(1) The frequency of any contact or communication with the child or a member of the child's family or household before the fatality or near fatality and the date on which the last contact or communication occurred before the fatality or near fatality;

(2) Whether the agency which provides child welfare services provided any child welfare services to the child or to a member of the child's family or household before or at the time of the fatality or near fatality;

(3) Whether the agency which provides child welfare services made any referrals for child welfare services for the child or for a member of the child's family or household before or at the time of the fatality or near fatality;

(4) Whether the agency which provides child welfare services took any other actions concerning the welfare of the child before or at the time of the fatality or near fatality; and

(5) A summary of the status of the child's case at the time of the fatality or near fatality, including, without limitation, whether the child's case was closed by the agency which provides child welfare services before the fatality or near fatality and, if so, the reasons that the case was closed.

DCFS did not have an open case at the time of the near fatality of the minor children; DCFS had involvement with the family with last contact in July 2024 for another child, born in 2023, who has since had a legal guardianship established for him through the 3rd Judicial District Court for Lyon County. At the closure of the case in July 2024, the other child had permanency and there were no other children in the parents home. Washoe County Social Services continues to have an open case with an older child born in 2017, who is free for adoption and in an adoptive placement and has been in Washoe County custody since 08/2020.

The information contained in this section is limited to contact(s) with the child who is the subject of this disclosure or a member of that child's family or household that is related to the fatality or near fatality incident. This limitation is required to preserve the confidentiality of all child abuse and neglect reports and records in order to protect the rights of the child and family as mandated by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.).

Agencies to check with legal representation if language is needed.

H. Whether the agency which provides child welfare services, in response to the fatality or near fatality…

(1) Has provided or intends to provide child welfare services to the child or to a member of the child's family or household; and

(2) Has made or intends to make a referral for child welfare services for the child or for a member of the child's family or household; and

DCFS has an open case with the infant and his family and will complete a new assessment in conjunction with law enforcement to determine the cause of death for the minor child. There are three other children residing in the home.

(3) Has taken or intends to take any other action concerning the welfare and safety of the child or any member of the child's family or household.

NON-DISCLOSURE NOTICE

The following information must not be released (see Policy on Public Disclosure of Child Fatality and Near Fatality Information, page 5): 1) Information regarding the sibling(s) of a deceased child; 2) a privileged communication between attorney and client; 3) information regarding the sibling(s) of a deceased child; 4) the name of the reporting party or individual making an allegation or referral will not be released; 5) if the disclosure of the information would adversely affect any pending investigation concerning a report (NRS 432B.290(4)-(5)); 6) if the disclosure violates other federal or state law, including, but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Family Educational and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), alcohol and drug abuse patient records (42 USC §290dd-2 and 42 CFR §212 (c)(6)), and any other applicable law.