
NEWS RELEASE

Roberto A. Villaseñor
Chief of Police

Contact: Chris Widmer
Sergeant / Public Information Office
520-791-4852
On-call PIO: tucsonpdpio@gmail.com
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

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HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION 1200 BLOCK SOUTH TURQUOISE VISTA

*****UPDATE – AUGUST 20, 2013 *****

Detectives from the Dependent Child Unit continue to investigate the circumstances that led to the death of a 2-month old baby boy. Detectives determined that the mother of the baby, 20-year old Katherine Fitzgerald, was aware that the 2-month old was in need of medical attention in the weeks prior to his death but failed to seek it. On August 20, 2013, Ms. Fitzgerald was arrested and booked into the Pima County Jail for 1 count of Child Abuse. The investigation is ongoing at this time.



Katherine Fitzgerald

Sergeant Chris Widmer – August 20, 2013

On August 12, 2013, officers from Operations Division East responded to the 1200 block of South Turquoise Vista for a report of an unresponsive 2-month old boy. Upon arrival, Tucson Fire Department was on scene and the baby was immediately transported to a local area hospital with life-threatening injuries. Hospital Staff contacted Tucson Police soon after and advised the injuries to the child were non-accidental in nature.

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Detectives from the Dependent Child Unit responded to continue the investigation. They discovered that the baby's father had just recently moved back into the home with the mother and the baby. Detectives determined that the father grew frustrated of the baby and shook him multiple times over a month long period. The baby sustained serious internal injuries from being shaken. The father, 22-year old Fayde Riggin, was booked into the Pima County Jail for 1 count of Child Abuse.

On August 19, 2013, the baby succumbed to his injuries. He was identified as 2-month old Mavrik Riggin. Detectives added 1 count of 1st Degree Murder to Mr. Riggin's previous charge of Child Abuse. The investigation is ongoing at this time.

Parents should be aware that shaking a baby can cause serious injury or death. It only takes a few seconds of shaking to cause permanent damage. Anyone caring for a child should know that if a baby will not stop crying, it is okay to put the baby down in a safe place (like a crib) and take a short break to calm down.



Fayde Riggin
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