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Valencia County lawmakers respond to tragic murder of 1-month old boy

Los Lunas, NM – Valencia County lawmakers today responded to tragic news of the murder of a 1-month old child. According to the <u>Valencia County News-Bulletin</u>, the mother has been charged with an open count of murder. The Valencia County Sheriff told the newspaper that deputies and CYFD had responded to a call to the home the week prior to the tragedy. It is unclear why the initial call to the home, in which the mother expressed concerns of being "overwhelmed and did not want to hurt her children," did not result in CYFD removing the children from the home.

"I am heartbroken to learn of the loss of such a young life in our community, in a situation that CYFD seemingly dropped the ball," said State Representative Kelly Fajardo (R-Los Lunas). "This is yet another example of New Mexico's broken system. Valencia County Sheriff's responded and made the right calls to get CYFD involved, yet there still was a critical failure in protecting these children."

"The tragedy this week should be eye-opening to our community, we need to do more to protect our children in situations like these," said State Representative Alonzo Baldonado (R-Los Lunas). "The cracks in the response from CYFD are massive and only seem to keep growing. At some point we as a community have to ask when is enough, enough?"

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