



# **City of Casa Grande Police Department**

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Police Arrest Mother for Murder of 13 Year Old Daughter**

**Casa Grande, AZ** – The Casa Grande Police Department has been conducting an in-depth investigation into a December 25<sup>th</sup> domestic dispute involving the death of 13 year old Aniarael Macias.

The mother of Aniarael, 35 year old Connie Villa, was arrested this morning after being released from Maricopa Medical Center where she was being treated for what investigators believe to be self inflicted stab wounds to her upper torso. The CGPD, in coordination with the Pinal County Attorney's Office, is charging Connie Villa with one count of 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder for the death of her 13 year old daughter Aniarael Macias. She is also being charged with four counts of attempted murder of her ex-husband, 33 year old Adam Villa, and her three surviving children, ages 3, 5 and 8.

Our investigation indicates Connie Villa forced her children to take prescription narcotic drugs in an attempt to kill them. Connie then contacted her ex-husband and lured him to her apartment, located at 351 North Peart Road, and stabbed him repeatedly in the upper torso. Adam Villa was able to flee and made a 911 call to Police while driving himself to the Casa Grande Regional Medical Center. Officers arrived at the apartment and were forced to make entry. Officers found Connie Villa in the apartment with apparent stab wounds to her upper torso. She was holding a knife to her own chest and had her three youngest children at her side. Officers subdued Connie Villa and, upon controlling the scene, discovered Connie's oldest daughter, 13 year old Aniarael Macias, in the bathroom. Medics arrived on scene and determined Aniarael was deceased. Aniarael did not have any apparent injuries and the cause of her death was not immediately known.



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Adam Villa was transported to a Phoenix area hospital for treatment of his injuries. Connie was also transported to a Phoenix area hospital where she was treated for her injuries. Based on initial interviews with the children, it was decided they should be transported to a Phoenix area hospital for evaluation as well. Initial evaluation of the children discovered they had trace amounts of opiates in their systems. All three children are currently in good condition and Child Protective Services has placed them with the family of Adam Villa. Mr. Villa remains in the hospital and is in stable condition. Mr. Villa is not the biological father of Aniarael Macias. Her biological father was contacted and is working closely with Police in this investigation.

Although an autopsy for Aniarael was conducted yesterday in Pima County, the results of which did not identify a cause of death, investigators feel the evidence found at the scene of the crime along with interviews and medical information of the surviving children, give our Department cause to believe Connie Villa was attempting to end the lives of all of her children and her ex-husband, Adam Villa.

Connie Villa was taken into custody at Maricopa Medical Center today at approximately 9:00 a.m. She was transported to the Casa Grande Police Department where she is being processed and booked for the charges of 1<sup>st</sup> Degree murder of Aniarael Macias and 4 charges of Attempted 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder for her three surviving children and Adam Villa. This is an ongoing investigation and there may be further charges forwarded. Our Department is also awaiting a toxicology report for Aniarael Macias and the three surviving children, which may take two to three weeks to return.

The Casa Grande Police Department would like to acknowledge the Offices of the Pinal and Pima County Medical Examiner and the Pinal County Attorney's Office for their assistance in this investigation.

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