

San Carlos Apache Tribe
 Department of Justice
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**IN THE SAN CARLOS APACHE CHILDREN'S COURT
 SAN CARLOS APACHE RESERVATION
 SAN CARLOS, ARIZONA**

In the Matter of:

Case No.: CW-2026 0024

BRANDON HUNTER, JR.
 DOB: 08-08-2014

CHILD IN NEED OF CARE PETITION

LUKE HUNTER
 DOB: 03-23-2018

Minor Children

The San Carlos Apache Tribe, by and through its representative undersigned petitions the Children's Court, pursuant to Chapter IV, Title V, Section 15. C. of the Child and Family Protection Code ("CFPC") to make the above minor a temporary ward of the Court pending further proceedings, based on the following:

Jurisdiction

- 1) The "minor children," Brandon Hunter, Jr. (Age: 9) and Luke Hunter (Age: 8), are dependent Native American Indian children and are tribally affiliated as an enrolled members or are eligible to be enrolled members with the San Carlos Apache Tribe.

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- 1 2) The Children's Court of the San Carlos Apache Tribe ("Tribe") has exclusive
2 jurisdiction pursuant to the San Carlos Apache Law and Order Code (SCALOC)
3 Chapter 3, Title V, of the Child and Family Protection Code (CFPC), under Section
4 5 (A) General Jurisdiction.
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6 3) The minor children's mother is Cecilia Sneezy. The father of the minor children is
7 Brandon Hunter, Sr., who is deceased.
8
9 4) The parent(s) are enrolled members of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, which is a
10 federally recognized Indian tribe; as such, the minor children are eligible for
11 membership with the San Carlos Apache Tribe, which establishes Jurisdiction of the
12 San Carlos Apache Children's Court pursuant to SCAT-CFPC.

13 Specific Allegations

- 14 5) Kendralyn Antonio, paternal grandmother of the minor children, reported that she has
15 seen the minor children's living conditions deteriorate after the death of her son,
16 Brandon Hunter, Sr.
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18 6) Ms. Antonio reported that the mother, Cecilia Sneezy, has exhibited signs and
19 symptoms she recognizes as related to drug use, including involuntary mouth
20 movements, facial twitching, restlessness, and an inability to remain still.
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22 7) Ms. Antonio reported that the symptoms she observed of the mother were like those
23 exhibited by Ms. Antonio's sister when she was known to be under the influence of
24 methamphetamine.
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26 8) CPS Investigator Alex Lewis spoke separately with the minor children, Brandon
27 Hunter, Jr., and Luke Hunter.
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- 1 9) The two minor children both reported several episodes of domestic violence between
2 their mother and her boyfriend, Danny Nasewytewa.
- 3 10) The minor child, Brandon Hunter, Jr., reported seeing Danny punch his mother in the
4 face during one incident.
- 5 11) Both minor children reported watching their mother and her boyfriend smoke
6 marijuana and a white substance using a soda can as a smoking device.
- 7 12) The minor children reported that little to no food was available in the house, and they
8 would go to neighbors asking for food. Neighbors would feed them, they reported.
- 9 13) CPS learned that the mother, Cecilia Sneezy, is receiving about \$1,222.00 per month
10 in Social Security survivor benefits on behalf of Brandon Hunter, Jr., and Luke
11 Hunter following the death of their father. Yet the minor children reported that they
12 would go hungry because there was no food in their home.
- 13 14) Mr. Lewis had concerns for the safety of the minor children given reports of alleged
14 drug use, domestic violence, inadequate food, and possible misuse of Social Security
15 benefits intended for the minor children. Mr. Lewis decided to remove the children
16 from their mother's care and custody.
- 17 15) Mr. Lewis identified Kendralyn Antonio, paternal grandmother, as placement for the
18 minor children. He gave Ms. Antonio an Agreement for Placement of Children with
19 Relative.
- 20 16) Mr. Lewis initially was unable to locate the mother, Cecilia Sneezy to give her a
21 Temporary Custody Notice. He gave her a TCN on July 31, 2026.
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Placement

- 17) CPS Investigator Alex Lewis gave an Agreement for Child Placement with a Relative to Kendralyn Antonio, paternal grandmother who agreed to care for the minor children.
- 18) Mr. Lewis gave the mother, Cecilia Sneezy, a TCN on July 31, 2026
- 19) Precautionary efforts will be made available for the Minor Children's protection pursuant to CFPC Section 13. B. 1. Minor Children, Brandon Hunter, Jr. and Luke Hunter, are placed as temporary wards with the San Carlos Apache Children's Court and the San Carlos Tribal Social Services Department. The Minor Children are placed with her paternal grandmother, Kendralyn Antonio.
- 20) Current address of Parents and Relatives:

Parents:	Mother—Cecilia Sneezy
	P.O. Box 31
	Peridot, AZ 85542
	Father—Brandon Hunter, Sr.
	Deceased
Placement:	Kendralyn Antonio—
	Paternal grandmother
Address:	124 Old New Moonbase
	Peridot, AZ 85542
	P.O. Box 548
	Peridot, AZ 85542

Shelter Care Hearing

- 21) Based on the information provided above, the Tribe is recommending the minor children be placed in temporary protective custody under the protection of the

1 Children's Court and request that the minor children be made temporary wards of the
2 Court pending further proceedings.

3 22) Additionally, the Tribe requests, pursuant to CFPC Section 16, that a **Shelter Care**
4 **Hearing** be scheduled within ten (10) working days of the filing of this Child in Need
5 of Care Petition, pursuant to C.F.P.C. Section 16 (B), and the mother, Cecilia Sneezy,
6 be provided notice of the Hearing pursuant to C.F.P.C. Section 16(C). Father Brandon
7 Hunter, Sr. is deceased.
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9 I, Justine R. Jimmie, have read the foregoing and attest that the information contained
10 herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

11 Signed and dated this 12th day of August, 2026.

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15 Justine R. Jimmie
16 Deputy Attorney General
17 San Carlos Apache Tribe
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