

6-Month Final Summary Report for Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident

Reports submitted to the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) that do not include all of the required information will be returned to the agency for proper completion. Do not identify individuals by name when completing this report. Individuals may be referenced by relationship or position; e.g., mother, father, child, sibling, physician, detective, etc.

Case Tracking Number: 131126DSP-Marin-393 **Agency:** Marinette County Health and Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 2 year old Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 11/26/2013

Description of the incident, including the suspected cause of death, injury or egregious abuse or neglect:

On December 19, 2013, the agency received a report regarding a house fire, which occurred on November 26, 2013. A two year old child was pronounced deceased in the house fire. Law enforcement initiated an investigation on November 26, 2013, and conducted interviews with the family. The agency reviewed the information provided by law enforcement and also conducted interviews regarding the death of the two year old.

The mother of the two year old reported she went to bed on November 26, 2013, at 4 a.m. and the two year old went to bed at 3 a.m. The mother stated she awoke at 10:30 a.m. and was told by her two older daughters that they awoke at 6 a.m. and 6:45 a.m. The mother did not disclose what time the two year old awoke. The mother disclosed that her six year old daughter advised her that she and her two year old sibling were in the basement playing and the two year old was playing with a cigarette lighter, which caught several toys and a sofa on fire. The mother reported she is a smoker but the step-father is not a smoker. The mother reported she was not sure how the children got the lighter or where it came from. The mother reported that while two of her children were downstairs, she was upstairs with her seven year old child watching a movie. The mother could not give an exact time the fire started but estimated it was around noon. The mother stated the six year old child came to the top of the stairs and told her the house was "on fire." The mother stated she went downstairs to get all three kids and told them to go outside. The mother reported calling 911 before exiting the house. The mother stated that as she was going outside, the two year old turned and went back into the house and went downstairs. The mother stated she called for her two year old and could hear her but could not see her. The mother stated she did not go back into the house.

The father of the children reported to law enforcement and the agency he was not present on the day of the fire and was hunting and refused to provide any further details.

The Medical Examiner's preliminary cause of death was ruled as smoke and soot inhalation from the fire.

No criminal charges were filed in this case and the criminal investigation remains open.

Findings by agency, including maltreatment determination and material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. Based on information gathered, the Initial Assessment completed by the agency has insufficient evidence to substantiate the maltreatment of neglect to the two year old by the mother.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?
 Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom?

Child's residence at the time of incident: In-home Out-of-home care placement

Complete the appropriate following section (A. or B. based on the child's residence at the time of the incident).

A. Children residing at home at the time of the incident:

Description of the child's family (includes household members, noncustodial parent and other children that have visitation with the child and / or in the child's family home):

At the time of the incident, the child resided with her mother, father, seven year old sibling, and six year old sibling. The child has an older half-sibling who resides with her father in a different residence.

Yes **No** **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, any member of the child's family or alleged maltreater at the time of the incident, including any referrals received by the agency or reports being investigated at time of incident?

If "Yes", briefly describe the type of services, date(s) of last contact between agency and recipient(s) of those services, and the person(s) receiving those services:

On October 23, 2013, the agency screened-in a Services Report, regarding concerns of Lack of Necessary Care, Lack of Supervision, and Environmental concerns for all three children residing in the home. Attempts were made on November 5, 2013 and November 22, 2013. On November 26, 2013, a worker from the agency observed the fire of the residence.

Summary of all involvement in services as adults under ch. 48 or ch. 938 by child's parents or alleged maltreater in the previous five years: (Does not include the current incident.)

None

Summary of actions taken by the agency under ch. 48, including any investigation of a report or referrals to services involving the child, any member of the child's family living in this household and the child's parents and alleged maltreater. (Does not include the current incident.)

(Note: Screened out reports listed in this section may include only the date of the report, screening decision, and if a referral to services occurred at Access. Reports that do not constitute a reasonable suspicion of maltreatment or a reason to believe that the child is threatened with harm are not required to be screened in for an initial assessment, and no further action is required by the agency.)

On August 3, 2011, the agency screened-out a CPS report.

On September 17, 2011, the agency received a Services Report, which was screened-out.

On February 27, 2012, the agency received a CPS report with allegations of physical abuse to a four year old within the home. The CPS report also gave concerns pertaining to the Necessary Care for all children within the home. The agency screened-in the CPS report and completed an Initial Assessment. Based on information gathered, the Initial Assessment completed by the county agency had insufficient evidence to substantiate the maltreatment.

On October 23, 2013, the agency screened-out a CPS report.

On December 12, 2013, the agency received a Services Report, which was screened-out.

Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the child and child's family since the date of the incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. Based on information gathered, the Initial Assessment completed by the agency has insufficient evidence to substantiate the maltreatment of neglect to the two year old by the mother. The agency provided information regarding community services for the family.

B. Children residing in out-of-home (OHC) placement at time of incident:

N/A

Description of the OHC placement and basis for decision to place child there:

N/A.

Description of all other persons residing in the OHC placement home:

N/A

Licensing history: Including type of license, duration of license, summary of any violations by licensee or an employee of licensee that constitutes a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

Summary of any actions taken by agency in response to the incident: (Check all that apply.)

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |

- Placement with relatives
- Ongoing Services case management

- Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases
- Other (describe):

FOR DSP COMPLETION ONLY:

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified during the review of the incident:

Under Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr), Stats.), the DSP completes a 90-Day review of the agency's practice in each case reported under the Act. The Department has determined no further review is needed. This completes the DSP actions related to this incident.

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues:

None

- Yes No Not Applicable This 6-Month Final summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.