

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: 141030DSP-Wood-494 **Agency:** Wood County Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 2 Months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White, Caucasian

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: October 2014

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

On November 4, 2014, the agency received a report regarding a 2 month old, who was found to have multiple rib fractures during an examination at the doctor's office. Medical personnel conducted further testing and found multiple rib, leg and arm fractures in various stages of healing which were consistent with non-accidental trauma. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation regarding the child's suspicious injuries. No criminal charges have been filed in this case.

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. Medical professionals could not determine specific times at which the various injuries occurred and it was not clear if the injuries to the child occurred while the child was placed in out-of-home care in the first two months of life or after reunification with his parents. As such, the agency conducted an Initial Assessment of the child's biological parent's home, as well as, requested a courtesy Initial Assessment of the foster home. The Initial Assessment completed for the foster home placement found insufficient evidence to substantiate physical abuse of the infant by the foster parents. The Initial Assessment completed for the infant's biological parents' home found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate physical abuse to the infant by an unknown maltreater. The infant was deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed in out-of-home care. The case remained open to provide ongoing case management services under a Child in Need of Protection and Services order.

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):

The child resided in out-of-home care with this foster mother and foster father for the first two months of life, during which time he visited his mother and father. After reunification, the child resided with his mother and father. Medical professionals could not determine specific times for the various injuries and it was not clear if the injuries to the infant occurred while placed in out-of-home care in the first two months of life or after reunification with his parents.

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:

At the time of the incident, the infant and his sibling were under Child in Need of Protection or Services orders. The last contact by the agency providing ongoing case management services with the infant, which included the infant's father, occurred on October 30, 2014.

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.)

On February 17, 2014, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging unborn child abuse by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of unborn child abuse was unsubstantiated. The case was already open at the

conclusion of this initial assessment and remained open to continue providing ongoing case management services. On October 8, 2013, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the infant's now 18 month old sibling by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was substantiated. The child was determined to be unsafe and placed in out of home care. A Child in Need of Protection or Services was filed and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

On September 19, 2013, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On May 23, 2013, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging unborn child abuse to the now 18 month old sibling by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of unborn child abuse was substantiated. The case was opened to provide voluntary ongoing case management services.

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.)

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Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 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. Medical professionals could not determine specific times at which the various injuries occurred and it was not clear if the injuries to the child occurred while the child was placed in out-of-home care in the first two months of life or after reunification with his parents. As such, the agency conducted an Initial Assessment of the child's biological parent's home, as well as, requested a courtesy Initial Assessment of the foster home. The Initial Assessment completed for the foster home placement found insufficient evidence to substantiate physical abuse of the infant by the foster parents. The Initial Assessment completed for the infant's biological parents' home found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate physical abuse to the infant by an unknown maltreater. The infant was deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed in out-of-home care. The case remained open to provide ongoing case management services under a Child in Need of Protection and Services order.

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

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

The child resided in out-of-home care with this foster mother and foster father for the first two months of life, during which time he visited his mother and father. After reunification, the child resided with his mother and father. Medical professionals could not determine specific times for the various injuries and it was not clear if the injuries to the infant occurred while placed in out-of-home care in the first two months of life or after reunification with his parents.

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

During the infant's placement in foster care, he resided with his foster mother and foster father.

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

The foster mother and foster father were licensed as Level 2 foster home since May 2014. There is no history of licensing violations by the foster parents constituting 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives | <input type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): |

FOR DSP COMPLETION ONLY:

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

Under the Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr), Stats.), the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) completes an initial review of the agency's practice for each case reported under the Act. A further practice review has been completed for case 141030DSP-Wood-494. As a result of this review process, DSP determined the agency implemented steps to continue to improve the consistency and quality of safety assessment and decision-making practices.

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

Based on the agency's effort and response to this incident and DSP review, no further statewide policy, practice, or statutory changes are recommended.

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