

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: 150720DSP-Milw-551 **Agency:** Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 1 Year, 5 Months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American/Black

Special Needs: None

Age: 3 Months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American/Black

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 07/20/2015

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

On July 20, 2015, the agency received a report regarding a 1-year-old child and 3-month-old infant brought to the hospital with several injuries located on various parts of their bodies. Medical professionals who examined the child and infant suspected maltreatment due to their presenting symptoms.

Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation regarding the child and infant's suspicious injuries. Both foster parents/guardians were arrested, charged, and convicted of Neglecting a Child (Causing Bodily Harm) and Resisting or Obstructing an Officer.

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. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the child and infant by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals determined the child and infant both sustained injuries consistent with maltreatment. The agency found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate neglect to the child by the foster parents/guardians at the time of the incident. The agency did not find sufficient evidence to substantiate neglect to the infant by the same foster parents/guardians. The child and infant were deemed unsafe and removed from the foster parents/guardians, who were the guardians of the child and serving as foster parents to the infant, at which time the child and infant were placed in a new foster home.

The case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The foster parents/guardians.

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 1-year-old child and infant resided with their foster parents/guardians. Also in the home was the mother of one of the guardians.

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 child's Child in Need of Protection or Services order had been closed when guardianship of the child was transferred to the foster parents. The infant was residing at the same home after having been placed there in March

2015 as part of a Child in Need of Protection or Services order.

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 18, 2014, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child by the birth-mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated, however the child was deemed unsafe with his mother and was placed in a foster home. A Child in Need of Protection or Services was filed in April 2014 and the case was closed in May 2015 when guardianship of the child was transferred to the foster parents.

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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On February 21, 2014, the agency screened-out a CPS Report against the birth-mother.

On March 28, 2015, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant by the birth-mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated, however the infant was deemed unsafe and placed in the foster home with her older sibling. A Child in Need of Protection or Services had been filed for the infant in April 2015 and the case was open for ongoing case management services

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. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the child and infant by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals determined the child and infant both sustained injuries consistent with maltreatment. The agency found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate neglect to the child by the foster parents/guardians at the time of the incident. The agency did not find sufficient evidence to substantiate neglect to the infant by the same foster parents/guardians. The child and infant were deemed unsafe and removed from the foster parents/guardians, who were the guardians of the child and serving as foster parents to the infant, at which time the child and infant were placed in a new foster home.

The case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

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:

At the time of the incident, the infant was residing in a foster home after being found to be unsafe in the birth-mother's home in March 2015. The infant's 1-year-old sibling, also a subject of this incident, was residing in the same home under a guardianship order in May 2015.

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

At the time of the incident, the child and the infant resided in a foster home.

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 parents/guardians were licensed as Level 2 foster parents since July 1, 2014. There is no history of licensing violations by the foster parents/guardians that constituted 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.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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 checked="" 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 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 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 IF RECORD OR ON-SITE REVIEW WAS UNDERTAKEN:

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified based on the record or on-site 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 in an initial review the agency's practice for each case reported under the Act. A further review has been completed by the Bureau of Performance Management (BPM) for case # 160720DSP-Milw-551. In order to ensure compliance with standards, DMCPS will work with their contract agencies to develop a formal policy related to respite. The policy will include information related to the identification and vetting (safety assessment, background checks) of respite providers and provision of respite services.

Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues based on the record or on-site review:

Based on the agency's effort and response to this incident and DSP review, no further state-level 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) action on this case.