

## 90-Day Summary Report for Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident

Case Tracking Number: 101228DSP-PN-70 Agency: LaCrosse County Department of Human Services

Child Information: Age: 15 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None

Child's Residence:  In-home  Out-of-home care placement

Date of Incident: 12/28/10

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

On 12/28/10, the child was placed in the bathtub by her father, with approximately 6-7 inches of water. Her father then left the bathroom, reportedly to attend to the younger sibling, leaving her in the bathtub unattended for an unknown amount of time. Father states that he returned to the bathroom when he no longer heard the child splashing. He found the child unresponsive in the water. Emergency services were called, and the child was pronounced deceased at the hospital due to drowning.

### Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated neglect to the deceased child by her father. Neglect to the surviving child was unsubstantiated, and the sibling was determined safe in her mother's care. The father admitted leaving the 15-month-old child alone in the bathtub. He also admitted drug use earlier in the day and playing his guitar while she was in the bathtub. He explained that the child knew how to pull the plug if she had any problems. The child's mother was at work at the time. The mother and father were under a no-contact order due to a domestic incident earlier the same month. No criminal charges in the child's death were filed.

### Additional information for children in home:

#### Description of the child's family:

The child and her sibling resided with their mother. Their father was temporarily out of the home due to a no-contact order imposed earlier in December.

Yes  No **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, 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:**

N/A

#### 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:

In 2009, the agency screened out a CPS Report, referring the report to the Community Response program. The mother received support and services from the Community Response worker.

#### 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 at the age of 18 years or older:

None

#### Summary of any investigation conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the family since the date of the incident:

The agency investigated the allegations of neglect to the two children. Neglect to the deceased child by her father was substantiated; neglect to the sibling was unsubstantiated. The parents were violating a no-contact order between each other when the father was caring for the children while their mother worked. The parents stayed in separate residences following the child's death, and a safety plan was implemented to ensure the sibling's safety. The father's visits with the sibling are supervised. The agency assessed the family and referred them to needed services. In March 2011, another CPS Report was received. The case was still open with the agency, so the report was screened out, and social workers continued their work with the family through Ongoing Services case management.

**Additional information for children in out-of-home (OHC) placement at time of incident:**

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

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

**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 actions taken by agency in response to the incident:**

The agency investigated the report of the child's death, substantiating maltreatment by the father. The agency implemented a safety plan to ensure the safety of the sibling. The father's visits with the sibling are supervised. The family was assessed and several service needs were identified. The family and relatives assisting the family continue to receive services from the agency.

**\*Summary of policy or practice changes to address identified issues:**

Some information about the family and actions taken by the agency is missing from the case record. The agency is addressing this issue to ensure that all necessary steps were taken in the case and the record is updated.

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

None

**Statement of Completion:**

Yes  No This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

\* If a full report including agency actions, changes in policies or practices and recommendations for further changes was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.