

90-Day 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: 120602DSP-Milw-209 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 3 weeks Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Latino

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 6/3/12

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

On 6/3/12, the agency received a report of a 3-week-old infant who had been admitted to the hospital with suspicious injuries. The infant was brought into the hospital by her parents due to difficulty breathing and not taking her bottle. Upon medical examination it was determined that the infant had multiple rib fractures at various stages of healing. The infant was transported the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin for further medical evaluation and treatment. The medical evaluation determined the infant's injuries included subdural hemorrhages of the brain, retinal hemorrhages, a total of 19 broken bones including multiple rib fractures in various stages of healing, fractures to both legs, seizure activity, and possible abdominal trauma. Medical professionals described the infant's injuries as being highly suggestive of physical abuse and highly specific to repeated inflicted trauma. The infant's urine also tested positive for cocaine. The infant's 3-year-old sister and 1-year-old brother were also evaluated on 6/3/12 at Children's Hospital and were medically cleared. Law enforcement conducted an investigation and both parents were arrested on 6/4/12; however, the mother was later released after the father admitted to causing the injuries to the infant. The father has been criminally charged with two counts of Child Abuse-Intentionally Cause Great Bodily Harm and one count of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Great Bodily Harm). A criminal charge is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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

The agency screened in and assessed the allegation of physical abuse to the infant. The agency coordinated with law enforcement and medical professionals during the assessment. The mother reported that on the day the infant was brought to the hospital, she had prepared a bottle for the infant and gave it to the father to feed her in the bedroom. The mother stayed in the kitchen feeding the other two children. The bedroom door was closed and the father summoned the mother to the bedroom reporting that the infant was having trouble breathing and was not taking her bottle. The parents originally denied causing the injuries to the infant and offered an explanation that the 1-year-old had fallen on the infant. The agency ultimately substantiated the allegation of physical abuse to the infant by the father and substantiated neglect to the infant by an unknown maltreater. The infant presented with multiple injuries indicative of physical abuse, which the father admitted to causing. The infant's urine also tested positive for cocaine; however, it is unclear who was responsible for the infant ingesting the drug. Medical professionals stated that the presence of cocaine in the infant's system could not have been ingested through breast milk and had to be intentionally given to her. All three children were determined unsafe and were placed in out-of-home care. A petition was filed in Children's Court and the children were determined to be Children in Need of Protection or Services.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? Father

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 infant lived with her mother, father, 3-year-old sister, 1-year-old brother, paternal grandmother, two paternal aunts, and cousin.

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:

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: (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.)

None

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 screened in and assessed the allegation of physical abuse to the infant. The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals and ultimately substantiated physical abuse by the father and neglect by an unknown maltreater. All three children were determined unsafe in the care of their parents and were placed in out-of-home care. A petition was filed in Children's Court and the children were determined to be Children in Need of Protection or Services. The children remain in out-of-home care and the family is receiving ongoing services with the agency.

B. Children residing 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 any actions taken by agency in response to the incident: (Check all that apply.)

- Screening of Access report
- Protective plan implemented
- Initial assessment conducted
- Safety plan implemented
- Temporary physical custody of child
- Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services)
- Placement into foster home
- Placement with relatives
- Ongoing Services case management
- Attempted or successful reunification
- Referral to services
- Transportation assistance
- Collaboration with law enforcement
- Collaboration with medical professionals
- Supervised visitation
- Case remains open for services
- Case closed by agency
- 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 the 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 DSP did not identify practice issues during the review of the incident.

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

None

Yes No Not Applicable This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

If the case review was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.

The agency must submit an electronic copy of the completed 90-Day Summary Report to Tara.Muender@wisconsin.gov