

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: 130622-DSP-Tremp-335 **Agency:** Trempealeau County Department of Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 1 year Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White/Caucasian

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: June 22, 2013

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

On June 22, 2013, the agency received a report regarding a 1-year-old pronounced deceased in her father's home while there for a visitation with the father. Law Enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation into the infant's unexplained death. The official cause of the infant's death was undetermined to be acute intoxication. The child was observed to have several injuries and fractures at the time of death.

As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the father's girlfriend was arrested and criminally charged with 1st Degree Reckless Homicide and Physical Abuse of a Child-Intentionally Cause 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 collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the child by the father's girlfriend and different county agency (where the child primarily resided) had an open case at the time of the incident, also investigating the incident, found sufficient evidence to substantiate physical abuse to the child due to the reported incident. The 5- and 6- year-old brothers of the deceased child, who were with the child at the time of the incident, were deemed safe and remained in their mother's care. The father and his girlfriend had two other children, a 7 month old girl and a 3 year old boy, who were residing with the father and the father's girlfriend at the time of the incident. An Initial Assessment was completed by the agency and they found sufficient evidence to substantiate physical abuse and neglect to these children. They were deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed in out-of-home care. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed and the father's 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 deceased child's father's girlfriend.

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 and her 5- and 6- year-old brothers in another county. The child's biological father had regular visitation. At the time of the incident the child was on a visit with her father. The child's father resided with his girlfriend, their child and the girlfriend's child.

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.)

At the time of the incident, the child was under a Consent Decree in a different county. The last contact the other agency had with the father and his girlfriend was on June 4, 2013.

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 February 25, 2013 a different agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the child. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was found to require services. A Consent Decree was filed on June 4, 2013 and the case was open to provide ongoing case management at the time of the incident.

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. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the child by the father’s girlfriend and different county agency (where the child primarily resided) had an open case at the time of the incident, also investigating the incident, found sufficient evidence to substantiate physical abuse to the child due to the reported incident. The 5- and 6- year-old brothers of the deceased child, who were with the child at the time of the incident, were deemed safe and remained in their mother’s care. The father and his girlfriend had two other children, a 7 month old girl and a 3 year old boy, who were residing with the father and the father’s girlfriend the time of the incident. An Initial Assessment was completed by the agency and they found sufficient evidence to substantiate physical abuse and neglect to these children. They were deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody, and placed in out-of-home care. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed and the father’s case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

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:

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.

N/A

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 DSP completes a 90-day review of the agency’s

practice in each case reported under the Act. In accordance with the DCF Memo Series 2010-13, dated December 7, 2010 pertaining to the Child Welfare Case Review Protocol, the DSP completed an on-site review in case #130622DSP-Tremp-335.

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

DSP is working with the agency on an action plan to address the practice issues identified during the review. The plan consists of training and technical assistance for the CPS supervisors and staff including information gathering and decision making related to CPS screening and assessments.

Yes No Not
Applicable

This 6-month 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.