

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: 140120DSP-Doug-408 **Agency:** Douglas County Health and Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 4 Months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian

Special Needs: Pierre-Robin Sequence, cleft palate

Date of Incident: January 20, 2014

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

On January 21, 2014, the agency received a report regarding a four-month-old infant who was brought to the hospital the day prior by her parents for difficulty breathing. Medical professionals who examined the infant suspected head trauma due to the infant's presenting symptoms, so the infant was transported to another hospital for further assessment and treatment. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation regarding the child's suspicious injuries.

The father reported he was alone caring for the infant in the afternoon. The father stated at 3:00 p.m. the infant appeared to have choked on something and arched her back real hard. The father indicated the infant was on the floor not breathing and he attempted mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The infant continued to have a difficult time breathing so the father decided to take her to the local hospital. The mother came home as the father was ready to leave and they both brought the infant to the emergency room. The father denied causing injuries to the infant.

Medical personnel determined the infant sustained acute head injuries. Medical professionals indicated a strong consideration for non-accidental trauma given prior rib fractures.

Law enforcement's investigation is complete and no criminal charges have been filed.

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 infant by the father. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained injuries and diagnosed the infant with non-accidental trauma. The infant was deemed unsafe, 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 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?

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 infant resided with her mother and her father.

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:

On December 19, 2013, the agency screened-in a CPS report alleging the three-month-old (now four-month-old) infant had several unexplained rib fractures. The agency screened-in the report with a five day response time. The infant was observed at the hospital on December 20, 2013, and assessed as safe. A home visit occurred on December 30, 2013.

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.)

N/A

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 December 19, 2013, the agency screened-in a CPS report alleging the three-month-old (now four-month-old) infant had several unexplained rib fractures. The Initial Assessment for this report was still open at the time of the current 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 professionals to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the county agency found a preponderance of evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the father. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained injuries and diagnosed the infant with non-accidental trauma. The infant was deemed unsafe, 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 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:

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.)

- 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 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 Department has determined no further review is needed. This completes the DSP actions related to this incident.

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

None

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