

## 6 Month 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: 140723DSP-Milw-466 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

**Child Information** (at time of incident)

Age: 10 Years Gender:  Female  Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: July 23, 2014

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

On July 24, 2014 the agency received a report regarding a ten-year-old boy and an 11-year-old girl who were admitted to the hospital the previous day with gunshot wounds. The children were released from the hospital the following day. During the course of their investigation, law enforcement determined that the living conditions of the family home were poor. As a result of the law enforcement investigations of both the mother and her boyfriend, the father of two of the six children residing in the household, were charged with misdemeanor counts of child neglect. 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 neglect by the mother of the 10-year old boy and the mother's boyfriend living in the household. While the agency found that the caregivers had remediated or attempted to remediate concerns related to the living conditions, the children were determined to be unsafe due the conditions of the household, and the ten-year-old boy and the 11-year-old girl, a six-year-old boy, a four-year-old girl, a three-year-old girl and a two-year-old girl were taken into protective custody and placed in out-of-home-care. The case remained open for ongoing services. The mother's nine-year-old daughter was visiting the home at the time of the incident and was returned to her father's household.

Yes  No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes  No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The mother and the mother's boyfriend.

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 household was comprised of the mother, the ten-year-old boy and four of her other children- a six-year-old boy, and four, three, and two-year old girls- and the mother's boyfriend and 11-year-old daughter. The mother's boyfriend was also the father of the six-year old-boy. A nine-year-old daughter of the mother was visiting the home for the summer.

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:**

The case was open in Ongoing Services and the family was receiving post permanency support services. Ongoing case management services workers visited the family home twice per month from the onset of trial reunification of two of the children in June of 2013. The Ongoing Services worker had last seen the parents and all of the children at the family home on July 18, 2014.

The case was also open for Initial Assessment related to a referral of January 3, 2014, alleging physical abuse by the mother. The Initial Assessment Specialist last contacted four of the children at their school on February 6, 2014.

**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 August 9, 2012, the agency screened-in an allegation of physical abuse and allegations of neglect by the mother. The Initial Assessment found a preponderance evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse. The Initial Assessment found insufficient evidence to substantiate for neglect. The children were determined to be unsafe, taken into protective custody and placed in out-of-home care. The children were later reunified with their mother and the case remained open in Ongoing Services for post-permanency support services.

**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 August 15, 2006 the agency screened-in an allegation of neglect by the mother. The Initial Assessment found insufficient evidence to substantiate for neglect and the children were assessed as safe. The mother was offered services, but declined.

On August 7, 2007 the agency screened-in an allegation of neglect by the mother. The Initial Assessment found insufficient evidence to substantiate for neglect and the children were assessed as safe. The mother was offered and accepted in-home case management services. In-home services provided through August of 2008.

On January 7, 2008 the agency screened-in an allegation of sexual abuse by an unknown maltreater. The Initial Assessment found insufficient evidence to substantiate for abuse. The family continued to be served through in-home case management services.

On August 9, 2012, the agency screened-in an allegation of physical abuse and neglect by the mother. The Initial Assessment conducted by the agency found a preponderance evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse by the mother. The Initial Assessment found insufficient evidence to substantiate neglect. The children were determined to be unsafe, taken into protective custody and placed in out-of-home care. The seven-year-old daughter was placed with her father. A child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed with the court for the other six children. The children were later reunified with their mother and the case remained open in Ongoing Services for post-permanency support services.

On January 31, 2014 the agency screened in an allegation of physical abuse by the mother. The Initial Assessment found insufficient evidence to substantiate for abuse.

On July 24, 2014 the agency screened out a duplicate report.

**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 insufficient evidence to substantiate neglect by the mother and the mother's boyfriend. While the agency found that the caregivers had remediated or attempted to remediate concerns related to the living conditions, the children were determined to be unsafe due to the conditions of the household, and the ten-year-old boy and the 11-year-old girl, a six-year-old boy, a four-year-old girl, a three-year-old girl and a two-year-old girl were taken into protective custody and placed in out-of-home-care. The nine-year-old daughter of the father's girlfriend was visiting the home at the time of the incident and was returned to her biological father's household.

**B. Children residing in out-of-home care (OHC) placement at time of incident: No**

**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 or other actions that constitute 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.)

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|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report   | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented  | <input type="checkbox"/> Referral to services  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted   | <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services                                     |
| <input checked="" 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):   |

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**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 Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr),Stats.) the DSP completes a 90-Day summary 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 Bureau of Performance Management (BPM) completed an on-site review of case 140723-Milw-466.

In order to ensure compliance with standards, BMCW made adjustments in staffing patterns at Access and has undertaken staff training initiatives in Access and Initial Assessment. The Ongoing Services agency has undertaken staff training initiatives and updated a case staffing protocol.

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

None at this time

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Yes  No  Not Applicable This 6 month final summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) action on 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.