

## 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:** 150304DSP-Wauk-523      **Agency:** Waukesha County Department of Health and Human Services

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

Age: 13 Years      Gender:  Female    Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian

Special Needs: Developmental Disabilities

**Date of Incident:** 03/04/2015

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

On March 4, 2015, the agency received a report regarding a thirteen-year old child who was left by herself in the basement of her home during the evening hours and overnight, without access to a bathroom or running water, and was provided inadequate sleeping arrangements. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation regarding the child's suspicious injuries. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the biological mother and the child's stepfather were criminally charged with Neglecting a Child. 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 a preponderance of evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the child by the mother and stepfather. The child was deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody. The child was placed with her biological father and grandparents (who resided together). The mother and stepfather were criminally charged. The stepfather was court ordered to have no contact with the child. 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? The biological mother and step-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):

At the time of the incident, the child resided with her biological mother, stepfather and two sisters, ages five and six..

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.)

On June 20, 2014, the agency screened in a Services Reports with concerns related to the child's sleeping conditions. A child welfare assessment was completed and the child was determined to be safe. The case was closed for child welfare services and opened to receive other agency services.

On January 8, 2013, the agency screened in a Services Report for mental health services.

On August 20, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging several forms of maltreatment to all children living in the household. The CPS Report alleged physical abuse to the child by her stepfather and the child's sisters by their father. The CPS Report alleged Emotional Abuse/Damage to the child by her biological mother. The CPS Report also alleged sexual abuse to the child by her biological father (who did not live in the home) and sexual abuse of the child's sisters by other siblings in the father's home. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse/damage were unsubstantiated. The children were determined safe and the case was closed.

On May 1, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging emotional abuse/damage by the mother to the child and sexual abuse to the child by the biological father (who was not living in the home). An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of emotional abuse/damage and sexual abuse were unsubstantiated. The child was determined safe and the case was closed.

On July 22, 2011, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging sexual abuse to the child by her stepfather. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of sexual abuse was unsubstantiated. The child was determined safe and the case was closed.

On May 27, 2010, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to child by her biological mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The child was determined safe and the case was closed.

**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 5, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On September 16, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On September 4, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On July 28, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On June 20, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On June 20, 2014, the agency screened in a Services Report with concerns related to the child's sleeping conditions. A Child Welfare Assessment was completed and the child was determined safe. The case was then closed for child welfare services and opened to receive other agency services.

On June 14, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On June 12, 2014, the agency screened in a Services Report.

On March 25, 2014, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On December 13, 2013, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On November 23, 2013, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On August 1, 2013, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On February 12, 2013, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On January 30, 2013, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On January 9, 2013, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On January 8, 2013, the agency screened in a Services Report for mental health services..

On December 7, 2012, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On August 20, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging several forms of maltreatment to all children living in the household. The CPS Report alleged physical abuse to the child by her stepfather and the child's sisters by their father. The CPS Report alleged Emotional Abuse/Damage to the child by her biological mother. The CPS Report alleged sexual abuse to the child by her biological father (who did not live in the home) and sexual abuse of the child's sisters by other siblings in the father's home. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse/damage were unsubstantiated. The children were determined safe and the case was closed.

On May 1, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging emotional abuse/damage by the mother to the child and sexual abuse to the child by the biological father (who was not living in the home). An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of emotional abuse/damage and sexual abuse were unsubstantiated. The child was determined safe and the case was closed.

On December 29, 2011, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On September 15, 2011, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On July 22, 2011, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging sexual abuse to the child by her stepfather. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of sexual abuse was unsubstantiated. The child was determined safe and the case was closed.

On July 19, 2011, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On July 12, 2011, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On May 27, 2010, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to child by her biological mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated. The child was determined safe and the case was closed.

On December 28, 2009, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On November 23, 2009, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On October 2, 2009, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On September 30, 2009, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On March 26, 2009, the agency screened in a CPS report alleging sexual abuse to the child by an unknown maltreater. The allegation was unsubstantiated. The family continued to receive agency services through the CHIPS order and the child continued to receive services related to autism through a community agency.

On August 29, 2008, the agency screened in a report alleging physical abuse to the child by the mother's then boyfriend. A joint investigation was completed and the allegations were unsubstantiated. The family continued to work with DHHS through the CHIPS petition and the on-going case management services already in place. The child also continued to receive services related to autism through a community agency.

On April 16, 2008, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the child by the mother. A joint investigation was completed with law enforcement and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated; however, concerns of neglect and emotional damage by the mother were assessed during the investigation and were substantiated. The agency filed a CHIPS Petition and the family received Ongoing case management and the child continued to receive agency services related through a community services agency.

On November 8, 2007, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On February 14, 2007, the agency screened out a CPS 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 a preponderance of evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect to the child by the mother and stepfather. The child was deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody. The child was placed with her biological father and grandparents (who resided together). The mother and stepfather were criminally charged. The stepfather was court ordered to have no contact with the child. 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented   | <input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (describe): Collaboration with autism services               |

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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 the Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr), Stats.), the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) completes in an initial review the agency's practice for each case reported under the Act. A further practice review has been completed for case #150304DSP-Wauk-523. As a result of this review process, DSP determined the agency implemented steps, both related to individual case practice supports and agency-wide monitoring and cross-program coordination, to improve the consistency and quality of safety assessment and decision-making practices.

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

Based on the agency's effort and response to this incident and DSP review, no further statewide policy, practice, or statutory changes are recommended.

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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.