

# 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:** 151025-DSP-MILW-572      **Agency:** Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

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

Age: 5 Months      Gender:  Female  Male

Race or Ethnicity: African American/Black

Special Needs: None

**Date of Incident:** 10/25/2015

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

On October 26, 2015, the agency received a report regarding a 5-month old infant who had been admitted to the hospital with significant injuries highly indicative of physical abuse. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation regarding the infant's suspicious injuries. Medical personnel diagnosed the infant with Abusive Head Trauma. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the mother's former boyfriend was arrested and criminally charged with Child Abuse-High Probability/Great Harm and 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 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 mother's former boyfriend. Medical professionals determined the child sustained head injuries and diagnosed the child with Abusive Head Trauma. The agency implemented a Protective Plan immediately following the incident in order to assure safety of the infant and his 6-year-old sibling and after a more in-depth assessment determined the infant and his siblings were safe. The agency closed the case upon completion of the Initial Assessment and no service referrals were made.

Yes  No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes  No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The mother's former 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):

Prior to the incident, the infant lived with his mother, maternal grandmother, and his 6-year-old brother.

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 May 21, 2015, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect by of the infant (now 5-month-old) by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the neglect allegation was unsubstantiated. The infant was determined to be found to be safe and the case was closed upon completion of the assessment.

On December 1, 2014, the agency screened-in a CPS report alleging physical abuse to the infant's now 6-year-old sibling. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated 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 May 21, 2015, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect by of the infant (now 5-month-old) by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the neglect allegation was unsubstantiated. The infant was determined to be found to be safe and the case was closed upon completion of the assessment.

On May 22, 2015, the agency screened in a Services Report which was addressed as part of the assessment completed for the May 21, 2015 screened-in CPS Report.

On December 1, 2014, the agency screened-in a CPS report alleging physical abuse to the infant's now 6-year-old sibling. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated and the case was closed.

**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 the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the mother's former boyfriend. Medical professionals determined the child sustained head injuries and diagnosed the child with Abusive Head Trauma. The agency implemented a Protective Plan immediately following the incident in order to assure safety of the infant and his 6-year-old sibling and after a more in-depth assessment determined the infant and his siblings were safe. The agency closed the case upon completion of the Initial Assessment and no service referrals were made.

**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.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals                           |
| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency  |
| <input 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 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 review has been completed by the Bureau of Performance Management (BPM) for case # 151025DSP-Milw-572. In order to ensure compliance with standards, DMCPs implemented an internal plan focused on information gathering from collateral contacts.

**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 state-level 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.