

# 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:** 170604-DSP-MILW-733      **Agency:** Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

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

Age: 3 years      Gender:  Female  Male

Race or Ethnicity: Black/African American

Special Needs: None

**Date of Incident:** June 4, 2017

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

On June 4, 2017, the agency received a report regarding a 3-year-old child pronounced deceased in his relative's home. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation into the infant's unexplained death. The Medical Examiner's Office noted no signs of maltreatment or trauma to the child; toxicology results confirmed the presence of methadone in the child's system. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, a relative caregiver was arrested. No criminal charges have been filed in this case, and the investigation remains open.

**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 neglect to the child by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals determined that the child had ingested methadone. The child was residing with a relative caregiver and her two 8-year-old children at the time of the child's death. Both 8-year-old children in this home were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed in a non-relative foster home. 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 child resided informally with his aunt and two 8-year-old cousins. The child's mother did not reside in the home but visited occasionally. Paternity has not been established for the 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:**

At the time of the incident, the agency was assessing allegations of neglect to the child's 8-year-old, 7-year-old, and 5-year-old brothers who resided with the child's biological mother. The 3-year-old child was residing informally with a relative at the time of his death.

**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 March 26, 2017, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect by the mother to the child's now 8-year-old brother, 7-year-old brother and 5-year-old brother by the mother. This assessment was open to the agency at the time of the child's death. The assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On March 3, 2015, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the child's now 7-year-old brother by the

mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On October 23, 2013, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

**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.)

The following history is related to the child's biological mother:

On March 26, 2017, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect by the mother to the child's now 8-year-old brother, 7-year-old brother and 5-year-old brother by the mother. This assessment was open to the agency at the time of the child's death. The assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On March 3, 2015, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the child's now 7-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On October 23, 2013, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On April 26, 2012, the agency screened-out a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On March 9, 2012, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old brother, 7-year-old brother and 5-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On September 7, 2011, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old brother and 7-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The family was referred to community services, and the case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

On May 6, 2011, the agency screened-in a Services Report. The family declined services from the agency, and the case was closed.

On January 7, 2010, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old brother by the mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was closed upon completion of the initial assessment.

The following history is related to the child's relative caregiver, who he was residing with at the time of the incident:

On April 26, 2012, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On August 12, 2008, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the child's now 8-year-old cousin. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The case was opened for ongoing

safety management services.

**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 neglect to the child by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals determined that the child had ingested methadone. The child was residing with a relative caregiver and her two 8-year-old children at the time of the child's death. Both 8-year-old children in this home were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed in a non-relative foster home. 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.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <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 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 type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input 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 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 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 an initial review of the agency's practice for each case reported under the Act. A further practice review has been completed for case 170604-DSP-MILW-733. As a result of this review process, the DSP determined the agency had implemented efforts to improve the consistency and quality of safety practices, including continued and updated training of CPS staff.

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

None

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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.