

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: 171002-DSP-POLK-768 **Agency:** Polk County Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 5 Months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian/White

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 10/02/2017

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

On October 2, 2017, the agency received a report regarding 5-month-old infant found unresponsive in the family home and brought to the hospital with head injuries. Medical professionals who examined the infant suspected non-accidental head trauma due to the infant's presenting symptoms. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. Medical personnel determined the injuries were consistent with non-accidental head trauma. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the infant's alleged father was arrested and criminally charged with Intentionally Cause Great Bodily Harm, Child Abuse-Recklessly Cause Great Bodily Harm, Physical Abuse of a Child, and Repeated Acts Causing Great Bodily Harm. The mother was arrested and criminally charged with Failure to Act to Prevent Bodily Harm to A Child and Child Neglect Resulting in 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 and alleged father. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained injuries consistent with non-accidental head trauma. The infant, her twin sister, and her 7-year-old brother were deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody. The infant remains hospitalized, her twin sister was placed in a licensed foster home, and the 7-year-old brother's father was granted placement. The infant's alleged father and mother were criminally charged and court ordered to have only supervised contact with the infant, supervised telephone contact with the infant's 7-year-old brother, and no contact with the 5-month-old sister. A Child in Need of Protection or Services Petition was filed for all three children 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 infant's father and mother

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, father, 5-month-old sister and 7-year-old brother. Paternity has not been established for the infant. The 7-year-old's mother and his father had shared placement and custody of him.

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 the September 1, 2017 CPS Report alleging neglect of the 5-month-old and her twin sister. The last contact by the agency to the mother was a telephone call on September 6, 2017.

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 September 1, 2017 the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the 5-month-old infant and her twin sister

by their mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. A Child in Need of Protection or Services Petition was filed on October 26, 2017 regarding the physical abuse allegations from the CPS Report dated October 2, 2017 and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management 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 September 28, 2017, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On September 1, 2017 the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect of the 5-month-old infant and her twin sister by their mother. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. A Child in Need of Protection or Services Petition was filed on October 26, 2017 regarding the physical abuse allegations from the CPS Report dated October 2, 2017 and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

On March 10, 2010, the agency screened-in a Services Report. The agency provided the family with referrals to community 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 physical abuse to the infant by the mother and alleged father. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained injuries consistent with non-accidental head trauma. The infant, her twin sister, and her 7-year-old brother were deemed unsafe and taken into Temporary Physical Custody. The infant remains hospitalized, her twin sister was placed in a licensed foster home, and the 7-year-old brother's father was granted placement. The infant's alleged father and mother were criminally charged and court ordered to have only supervised contact with the infant, supervised telephone contact with the infant's 7-year-old brother, and no contact with the 5-month-old sister. A Child in Need of Protection or Services Petition was filed for all three children 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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): |

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 171002-DSP-POLK-768. 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 the addition of family support staff positions.

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

None

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