

# 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:** 250625DSP-Vern-1393      **Agency:** Vernon County Department of Human Services

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

Age: 7 months      Gender:  Female  Male

Race or Ethnicity: White

Special Needs: None

**Date of Incident:** 6/25/25

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

On June 25, 2025, the agency received a report regarding a 7-month-old infant pronounced deceased in his home. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. The Coroner's preliminary determination was the infant's death was due to an unsafe sleep environment; the autopsy report is pending. 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 professionals to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the mother. The agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect of the infant by the mother. 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?

**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 his mother, his father, his grandmother, his grandfather, and his uncle.

**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 May 12, 2025 CPS Report. The last contact by the agency was a home visit on June 19, 2025.

**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 12, 2025, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging physical abuse to the infant by an unknown maltreater. The infant died during the assessment period and an additional report was made to the agency regarding the infant's death on June 25, 2025. An assessment of the initial allegation was completed by the agency, and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated.

**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.)

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on June 25, 2025. An assessment of the initial allegation was completed by the agency, and the allegation of physical abuse was unsubstantiated.

On October 20, 2017, the agency screened-in a services report. The agency provided the family with 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 professionals to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found insufficient evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the mother. The agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of neglect of the infant by the mother. 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 a 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 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):   |

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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 review of the incident:**

Under the Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr), Stats.), the DSP completes a 90-day review of the agency's practice in each case reported under the Act. A further practice review has been completed for case #250625DSP-Vern-1393. No immediate changes to policy or practice were made based on review of the incident.

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

The DSP did not make any recommendations for further changes based on this review process. (Note: The review process for an individual case may not result in a recommendation for policy or practice changes, but may impact future recommendations as a result of the review of multiple cases and other related sources of information.)

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