

## 90-Day Summary Report for Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident

Case Tracking Number: 100606DSP-PN-25 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information: Age: 2 1/2 years Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: African American  
Special needs: None

Child's Residence:  In-home  Out-of-home care placement

Date of Incident: 6/6/10

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

The BMCW was notified that a 2 1/2 year-old boy died by a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The child took a loaded pistol from the mother's night stand and shot himself. Reportedly, the gun was usually in a gun box on a high shelf, but recently the gun was charged, wrapped in cloth and placed in the drawer. The mother intended but forgot to return it to the gun box. The child had been told never to touch a gun. On the day of the tragedy the child and siblings were in the parent's bedroom watching a movie. The parents were in the living room when they heard a "pop," ran to the bedroom, and found their son. The father kept the weapon in the home to ensure the family's safety because they live in a violent neighborhood.

### Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated neglect to the child by his mother. The mother was found negligent for having a loaded gun in an area accessible to the child, with the child having knowledge of its location. The case was investigated by law enforcement, and no one was criminally charged. See above for additional material circumstances.

### Additional information for children in home:

#### Description of the child's family:

The child lived with his mother, father and four siblings.

Yes  No **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, 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 under ch. 48 or ch. 938 by child's parents or alleged maltreater in the previous five years:**

None

**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 or alleged maltreater:**

In March 2009, the agency received and screened in a referral for services for this family and their newborn. The family agreed to participate in the Safety Service program, but the case was closed in August 2009 as the mother was non-compliant with participation in the offered services and the follow-up recommendations.

**Summary of any investigation conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the family since the date of the incident:**

The agency substantiated neglect to the child by his mother. The mother was negligent for leaving a loaded gun in a drawer accessible to the child. The surviving children in the home were assessed to be safe and the agency closed the case.

Services were offered by the agency, but the family declined, citing a strong family and friend support system helping them with their grieving.

### Additional information for children in out-of-home (OHC) placement at time of incident:

**Description of the OHC placement and basis for decision to place child there:**

**Description of all other persons residing in the OHC placement home:**

**Licensing history:** Including type of license, duration of license, summary of any violations by licensee or an employee of licensee that constitutes a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

**\* Summary of actions taken by agency in response to the incident:**

The agency screened in the report of the child's death and conducted an initial assessment. Neglect to the child by the mother was substantiated. The assessment determined that the other children in the home are safe. The case was closed with the agency.

**\*Summary of policy or practice changes to address identified issues:**

None

**\*Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues:**

None

**Statement of Completion:**

Yes  No This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

\* If a full report including agency actions, changes in policies or practices and recommendations for further changes was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.