

Child Death, Serious Injury or Egregious Incident Summary Report

Type of Report: 90-Day Final

Case Tracking Number: 100804DSP-PN-37 Agency: Rock County Human Services Department

Child Information: Age: 12 Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: African American
Special needs: None identified

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

Date of Incident: 08/04/2010

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

On August 4, 2010, the child was taken to the local hospital emergency room due to a gunshot wound. The father reported that he accidentally shot the child while they were sitting on the front porch. The father believed someone approached from the neighbor's driveway and was attempting to rob him. The father reported that he attempted to shoot at the robber to protect his son. One shot was fired and passed through the father's hand before entering and exiting both of the child's upper legs. The child was med-flighted from the local emergency room to another hospital. The child's injuries were potentially life-threatening and doctors performed surgery to repair the left femoral artery.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated neglect of the child by the father. There were conflicting reports of what transpired during the incident. The father reported that he accidentally shot the child while they were sitting on the front porch, as the father believed someone had approached in the neighbor's driveway and was attempting to rob him. Reportedly, he attempted to shoot at the robber and protect his son. When the bullet discharged from the gun, one bullet hit the father's hand and then entered and exited both of child's upper legs. The child indicated that he had no knowledge of a robber and initially stated that the father was cleaning the gun. He later stated that the father was talking and waving the gun around when it discharged. The child did believe that his father shot him accidentally. The father had been consuming alcohol prior to the incident, and his blood alcohol concentration was later found to be 0.063 grams per 100 milliliters.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

At the time of the incident, the child was residing with his father and paternal grandparents. There were no other children in the home. The child had regular visitation with his mother. He does have half-siblings, but has limited to no contact with them, and they do not reside with either of the child's parents.

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:

The child's older sibling, who is now an adult, received services from the agency as a minor.

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 screened in the report dated 08/05/2010 of the child being shot. The agency conducted an investigation in conjunction with law enforcement, and neglect by the father was substantiated. The child received medical care, and upon

discharge from the hospital went to live with the mother. The father and child were referred to community services.

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:

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 that constitutes a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

N/A

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

The agency conducted an initial assessment and found the child to be safe with the mother. The father was referred to and participates in alcohol treatment and the child was referred to and participates in individual therapy. The father was arrested and subsequently charged with Injury by Negligent Use of a Weapon. Criminal court proceedings are pending. The agency closed the family's case after making referrals to community resources.

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

The initial assessment was not completed within the 60 days allowed by state statute. Prior to this incident, the agency had identified an issue with the timeliness of completing initial assessments and hired a consultant to assist in addressing this issue.

***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.

This final summary report completes the DSP review of this case.