

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

Case Tracking Number: 100816DSP-PN-45 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information: Age: birth Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None noted

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

Date of Incident: 8/16/10

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

The agency received a report that three days earlier on August 16, 2010 the mother gave birth in the bathroom of a restaurant and disposed of the newborn in a garbage bin outside the restaurant. The mother was experiencing uncontrollable bleeding and drove herself to the hospital. The mother first denied there was a child birth, and then reported she did not know she was pregnant and had disposed of a miscarriage. The mother has been criminally charged with 1st Degree Reckless Homicide and Concealing the Death of a Child.

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

The agency substantiated neglect to the deceased newborn by the mother and unsubstantiated neglect to the newborn's sibling. The following information was reported by the mother: The mother explained she was not aware she was pregnant, because she had none of the symptoms of her previous pregnancy. The mother went to the bathroom, bleeding profusely and experiencing significant pain. She thought she may be miscarrying, but did not indicate if she saw a fetus or a baby.

The medical examiner reported that the baby was born alive at 38-39 weeks gestation, weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 20 inches long. The mother failed to seek medical attention for the baby ,and as a result the baby died.

With the mother incarcerated, the surviving child was determined unsafe and the agency initiated taking custody of the child. After establishing paternity, the child was placed with her father where she was assessed to be safe.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The mother lived with the alleged father of the deceased newborn and her child from a previous relationship. The mother and the surviving child's father shared custody of the child.

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:**

None

**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 deceased newborn by the mother and unsubstantiated neglect to the sibling. With the mother incarcerated, the surviving child was originally determined unsafe and a CHIPS court order was initiated. The sibling's father was adjudicated, the CHIPS petition was dropped, and the child was placed with her father where she was

assessed to be safe. The case was closed as no further services from the agency were required or desired by the family.

**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 received a referral of alleged neglect to a newborn and her sibling. The referral was screened in and assigned to an initial assessment social worker for assessment. Neglect to the newborn by her mother was substantiated; neglect to the sibling was unsubstantiated. The assessment determined the sibling was unsafe due to her mother's incarceration. The agency proceeded with obtaining a CHIPS order, but the action was dropped, and the child was placed with her adjudicated father. The child was determined safe with her father. No further services were required or requested, and the case was closed.

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

The DSP requested that the agency review and make some corrections to the completed initial assessment, and the agency complied with this request.

**\*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.