

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

Case Tracking Number: 100917DSP-PN-49 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information: Age: 2 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Native American  
Special needs: Two holes in the heart at birth

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

Date of Incident: 9/17/10

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

On 9-17-10 the two-month-old infant was taken by her parents to the hospital due to respiratory distress. The infant was listless, turning blue, and had a life threatening medical condition. She was transferred to Children's Hospital of Wisconsin where she was found to have bilateral knee abrasions, a bruise on her right knee, possible broken blood vessels between her eyebrows, internal injuries, and a healing rib fracture. It was determined the infant has hypoxic insult which can cause permanent brain impairment from lack of oxygen. The examining physician determined that the injuries were not sustained at the same time and suspected the baby was smothered and physically abused.

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

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the infant by her father. Neglect to the infant and her sibling by both parents was also substantiated. There are conflicting stories about what occurred during the day. The mother reports that on 9/17/10 the family went to a relative's home and returned around 1:00 PM. The father reported he spent the day sleeping as he was sick and had difficulty sleeping the night before. Both parents agree that in the afternoon the mother left the home, and the father was watching the children. The father reports the baby woke up crying around 3-4 PM, and he gave her a bottle. He noticed she had difficulty burping and breathing, was "spitting-up a lot," and her eyes started to wander. She began making a "gurgling noise." The father contacted the mother and she returned to the home. Together they took the infant to the hospital. Both parents were taken into police custody. The mother was released and has not been criminally charged. The father has been criminally charged with 1) Child Abuse - Intentionally causes great bodily harm, 2) Neglecting a Child - Consequence is great bodily harm, and 3) Child Abuse - Intentionally causes bodily harm. The criminal charges also specify no contact with the children.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The infant was residing with her mother, older sibling and a relative. The father of the children resides with a different relative but frequently spends time at the children's home.

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 as adults 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 living in this household and the child's parents and alleged maltreater at the age of 18 years or older:**

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:**

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Division of Safety and Permanence

The agency screened in two reports on this incident and conducted an initial assessment. Physical abuse to the infant by her father was substantiated, and neglect to both children by their parents was substantiated. The children were determined unsafe in their parents' care. The children were removed from their home and placed with a relative. The mother's visits with the children are supervised. The injured child continues to receive medical and other services. The parents have been referred to various services, and the relative caregiver also receives support from the agency. The case remains open with the agency and the family will receive ongoing case management 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:**

**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 two reports on this incident and conducted an initial assessment. Physical abuse to the infant by her father was substantiated, and neglect to both children by their parents was substantiated. The children were determined unsafe in their parents' care. The children were removed from their home and placed with a relative. The mother's visits with the children are supervised. The family has been referred to various needed services, and the relative caregiver receives support from the agency. The family continues to receive ongoing case management services.

**\*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.