

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

Case Tracking Number: 101014DSP-PN-59 Agency: Marathon County Dept. of Social Services

Child Information: Age: 9 years Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 10/14/10

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

The agency received a report that a registered sex offender living with the child was bragging that he has a nine-year-old girlfriend that he will marry when she turns 18. The child was living with her mother, two younger siblings and two unrelated adult males (i.e., mother's boyfriend and the registered sex offender). The two men would watch the child and her younger siblings while their mother was working. A sibling reported that the two men were touching & bathing the sister, but their mother denied the allegations. Later, the mother's boyfriend admitted to abusing the child, and her mother admitted to knowing about it. She also admitted to knowing that the sex offender had child pornography in her home. The mother told the child that she should not tell anyone about the abuse, because it would break up the family and they wouldn't have any money. The mother has been criminally charged with Failure to Act/Sexual Assault of a Child. The boyfriend abusing the child is charged with 1st Degree Sexual Assault - child under the age of 13 years. The other male in the household is not charged with abusing the child but has been criminally charged with 75 counts of Possession of Child Pornography.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated neglect to the child by her mother and sexual abuse of the child by the mother's boyfriend. Both adults admitted to their actions as described in the previous section. The adults admitted knowing about and viewing child pornography in the home. All of the children in the home were determined unsafe and removed from the home.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child lived with her mother, two younger siblings and two adult males.

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:

In 2009, the agency screened in a child welfare services report and contacted the family to offer assistance.

In 2008, the agency received three CPS Reports, screening out one and screening in two of the reports for investigation.

Please see the following section for information about involvement in services.

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:

In 2009, the agency received a report alleging that a male sex offender was living with the family and screened it in for child welfare services. The agency determined that the alleged sex offender did not have any conditions prohibiting him from having contact with children. The agency contacted the family and informed the mother that her roommate was a registered sex offender. The mother stated that the roommate did not provide any care for the children. The agency gathered additional information and closed the case.

In 2008, two screened in CPS Reports were investigated. The first report was unsubstantiated and the children were

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determined safe. The family was referred to the Family Resource Center. The second report was assessed, and neglect to all of the children by their mother and her boyfriend was substantiated. The mother removed the children from the concerning conditions in the home, and the agency determined the children safe. Services were offer and declined by the mother.

In 2001 and 2002, two reports alleging neglect by the mother and her husband were screened in and investigated. The reports were unsubstantiated.

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 investigated the report of maltreatment to the child, substantiating sexual abuse and neglect. All of the children were determined unsafe and removed from their mother's care. The children were immediately placed into foster care and subsequently moved to the homes of relatives. Criminal charges are pending, and the families are receiving Ongoing Services from the agency.

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 and investigated the report of alleged sexual abuse and neglect. During the initial assessment, the children were promptly taken into temporary physical custody and placed into foster care. The children were later moved to the homes of relatives. The agency determined the children unsafe in the care of their mother. The agency assisted with the medical examination of the child. They are also assisting one relative caregiver with confirming the biological father of one of the younger children. The families are receiving Ongoing Services from 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.