

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

Case Tracking Number: 101221DSP-PN-69 Agency: Fond du Lac County Dept. of Social Services

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

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

Date of Incident: 12/21/10

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

The child was transported to Children's Hospital in Milwaukee with massive head trauma. Mother's boyfriend was watching the child while her mother worked. Reportedly, he found the child at the bottom of the stairs after going downstairs where he transferred laundry into the clothes dryer. The boyfriend's father arrived at the home shortly after the child's alleged fall and performed cardiopulmonary respiration on the child. The boyfriend called 911. The child suffered bilateral subdural hemorrhage, brain injury, retinal hemorrhages, decreased white blood count and significant neurological compromise due to nonaccidental trauma to the head. The doctor described the child's injuries as comparable to a fall from the third floor of a building or a severe car crash. The child was taken off of life support and died. Mother's boyfriend was charged with 1st Degree Reckless Homicide.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the child by her mother's boyfriend. The agency collaborated with Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Department during the investigation. The explanation provided by the boyfriend was not consistent with the injuries to the child or the evidence at the home, and he has been criminally charged in the child's death. The child's mother does not believe that her boyfriend hurt the child. There are no other children in this family.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child lived with her mother and the mother's boyfriend.

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:

The agency substantiated maltreatment to the child by the mother's boyfriend. There are no other children in the family. The agency attempted contact with the mother to offer services and gather additional information, but she did not respond.

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 serious injuries to the toddler. There are no other children in this family, so the agency partnered with law enforcement, obtaining information for the initial assessment from the criminal investigation and medical records. The agency attempted to work with the child's mother, who did not respond. The case was closed.

***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.