

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

Case Tracking Number: 110218DSP-Mara-82 Agency: Marathon County Dept. of Social Services

Child Information: Age: 3 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 2/18/11

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

On March 7, 2011, the agency received a report that when the infant was being examined by the doctor on March 4, healing fractures on three ribs were discovered. A few weeks earlier on February 18, 2011, the infant was taken to the emergency room with an injury to his ear. At that time, the child had a bruised, swollen ear, bruising on his cheeks, bridge of nose, and left side of his chin, scratches near his eye and nose, and bruises on his upper and lower left arm. Reportedly, a cat had scratched the child's ear more than a month prior to this, and it had not healed. The parents also expressed concern that the child seems to bruise easily. During interviews with law enforcement regarding the fractured ribs, the father admitted that he was "probably too rough" with the baby. He also admitted that he may have caused the previous bruises by handling the child roughly when he was frustrated. The fractured ribs are considered the result of a compression injury. The healing rib fractures and earlier bruises are considered suspicious for nonaccidental trauma. Although admitting to handling the child roughly, the father denied grabbing or squeezing the child hard enough to injure him. At the time of this report, no one has been criminally charged with the child's injuries. The criminal investigation is ongoing.

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

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the baby by his father. The child was determined unsafe, taken into temporary physical custody and placed with his mother. The father admitted to becoming frustrated with the child and using force to make him comply with his demands. Re-evaluation of the 2/18/11 X-rays found that the child had healing hairline fractures in these three ribs that were undetected by medical professionals at that time. The child's father was incarcerated due to a probation violation and will be in jail for the next several months. He currently has supervised contact with the child. Both parents deny that the father intended to hurt the infant. Both parents participated in parenting classes during the pregnancy and were receiving in-home services from community providers at the time of the February injuries.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The child resided with his mother and father.

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:

On February 18, 2011, the agency received a report regarding the infant's bruises and scratches. The initial assessment unsubstantiated maltreatment. The child was determined safe with his parents, who were receiving community services and support from relatives. The case was closed with the agency on 3/3/11.

#### 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 physical abuse to the child by his father. The child was taken into temporary physical custody and placed with his mother. Visits between the father and child are supervised. The father is incarcerated due to revoked probation; no one has been charged with injuring the baby. Both parents are cooperating with the agency and continue to receive services. The case remains open for Ongoing Services case management.

**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 the infant's healing rib fractures. Agency workers collaborated with law enforcement during the investigation. The initial assessment substantiated physical abuse to the child by his father. The child was determined unsafe, and the agency placed the baby with his mother while the father is incarcerated. The father's visits with the child are supervised. The family is receiving Ongoing Services.

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

The initial assessment is not in compliance with the CPS Access and Initial Assessment Standards. The DSP is working with the agency on the identified issues.

**\*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.