

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

Case Tracking Number: 110301DSP-Col-81 Agency: Columbia Co. Health & Human Services Dept.

Child Information: Age: 5 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None prior to the incident

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

Date of Incident: 2/23/11

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

The child's father took him to the hospital in respiratory distress. He was transferred from the local hospital to UW Children's Hospital with blood on his brain. The child was diagnosed with an acute subdural hematoma caused by abusive head trauma. The child also has bilateral lower extremity bucket-handle lesion fractures with mild healing present, which means the injuries occurred prior to the acute head trauma. The father confessed to shaking the baby, causing the current head trauma. He also confessed to violently pulling the baby's legs, causing the fractures. The father has been criminally charged with two counts of Child Abuse, Intentional Causion of Great Bodily Harm and Intentional Causion of Bodily Harm.

2/22/12 Update: The trial has been concluded and the father was found guilty.

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

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the child by his father. The child was determined unsafe in the care of this father. The father confessed to violently shaking the child on 2/23/11 when the child's crying upset him. The father also admitted that he was rough with the baby while changing his diaper, pulling on his ankles harder than he should. Both the father and mother reported that the father became frustrated when the baby would cry and become fussy, but the mother was unaware that the child was being injured. During the assessment, the agency learned that ten days earlier the day care provider noticed some bruising on the child's nose, followed the next day by some bruising under his chin. The father had explained the nose was bruised when the child sneezed and bumped into the handle of the car seat, and the bruising under the chin was caused by the straps on his car seat. The day care staff also noted that the baby would cry whenever he would hear his father's voice upon arrival to pick him up from the day care. The agency unsubstantiated maltreatment to the baby for the alleged earlier bruises.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The baby resided with his mother, father and a relative.

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 screened in two reports on February 24 & 25, 2011, regarding the alleged previous and current injuries to the baby. The agency unsubstantiated the report of the prior bruises and substantiated physical abuse for the current injuries to

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the child by his father. Agency staff collaborated with law enforcement during the investigation, and the father confessed to inflicting the baby's current and previous injuries. The child was determined unsafe in the care of his father and placed with his mother upon discharge from the hospital. Agency staff referred the child to services, is assisting the mother with the court process, and is assisting both parents with obtaining other needed or required services. The mother now has sole custody of the child and the father is not allowed to have contact with the child at this time.

**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 reports of injuries to the baby, substantiating physical abuse by the baby's father. Prior to receiving the second report of injuries, the agency initiated contact with the hospital to inquire about the child in response to the first report it received about the alleged injuries. The agency took temporary physical custody of the child while he was in the hospital, placing him with his mother upon discharge. Agency staff collaborated with law enforcement during the investigation. The agency referred the child and parents to services. The case is opened for Ongoing Services case management.

**\*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 regarding the issues identified at Access and during the investigation.

**\*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.