

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

Case Tracking Number: 110308DSP-StCr-86 Agency: St. Croix County Dept. of Health and Human Services

Child Information: Age: 6 years Gender:  Female  Male  
Age: 8 years Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 3/8/11

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

The two siblings were in a car accident while they were being transported home from school by their regular babysitter's sibling. The children were wearing seatbelts, but the younger child was not in a booster seat as required by law. The shoulder straps of the seatbelts were behind rather than around them. The children incurred injuries from the lap portion of the seat belt constricting on their abdomens. Both children suffered injuries to their vertebrae, mild concussions and other less severe injuries as a result of the accident, and surgery was required. The children are expected to fully recover from their injuries.

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

The agency unsubstantiated neglect to the children and determined them safe in their parents' care. The driver of the car has a valid driver's license. Both children are smaller in stature and need to be transported using booster seats. The parents explained that they stopped using booster seats due to their children's ages and a lack of knowledge about legal requirements. They began using seatbelts at the beginning of the 2011 school year. No other concerns about the family were noted during the initial assessment. No criminal charges were filed in this case.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The two children live with their parents.

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 and investigated an allegation of neglect that may have resulted in serious injuries to the children sustained in a car accident. Maltreatment was unsubstantiated, and the children were determined safe in their parents' care. Prior to closing the case, the agency ensured that car seats were installed in the family's vehicles and that the family had information about the children's size and proper restraints. The family was connected to proper medical services for follow-up care. No further services from the agency were needed.

### 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 injuries to the children, unsubstantiating maltreatment. Agency staff assisted the family with information about proper vehicle restraints. They ensured that the family was connected to needed services. No further services from the agency were needed, and 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.