

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

Case Tracking Number: 110327DSP-Wauk-90 Agency: Waukesha County Dept. of Health & Human Services

Child Information: Age: 10 years Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian
Special needs: Behavioral issues

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

Date of Incident: 3/27/11

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

Reportedly, the father was demonstrating gun safety with one son when the loaded gun went off, shooting the other son in the stomach. The bullet entered the child's right hand, exited his forearm, entered the abdomen and lodged along the abdomen wall. The child's wounds were significant; however, a full recovery is expected.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency unsubstantiated maltreatment, and determined the child and his sibling safe in their father's care. The father explained that after cleaning the guns, he wanted to teach his older son how to load one of the guns. When the father attempted to put away the gun, it discharged. It is unknown if he was distracted or if it was a reflex that accidentally pulled the trigger. The father cooperated with the law enforcement investigation, which determined the incident was an accident, but refused to cooperate with the agency investigation. Interviews with the children confirmed the events as described by the father to the police. The father has been criminally charged with 1st Degree Recklessly Endangering Safety.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child and his sibling spend 50% of their time with their mother and 50% of their time with their 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:

The mother was participating in voluntary Ongoing Services at the time of the incident. The last contact with the family was a home visit with the mother on February 24, 2011.

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:

Please see the following section.

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 March 2010, the agency screened in and investigated a report of alleged physical abuse to the child and his sibling. The allegations were unsubstantiated, and the children were determined safe in the care of their parents. The agency referred the family to community resources and services. The case was transferred to Ongoing Services following the assessment. The mother and children were participating voluntarily in Ongoing Services at the time of the incident.

In April 2007, the agency screened in and investigated a report of alleged maltreatment to the children by a peer maltreater. Maltreatment was substantiated, and the children were determined safe in their parents' care. The family was referred to services, and the agency closed the case.

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 and unsubstantiated the allegation of maltreatment related to the shooting incident. The incident was determined an accident. The father cooperated with the law enforcement investigation but did not cooperate with the

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agency during the initial assessment. The agency identified some resources for the family and provided this information to the mother when the father was unresponsive. The case continues to remain open for voluntary services for the mother and children.

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 maltreatment in the shooting of the child. The incident was deemed an accident, and maltreatment was unsubstantiated. The children were determined safe in their parents' care. The agency provided information to the family regarding services. The mother continues to voluntarily participate in Ongoing Services.

***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.