

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

Case Tracking Number: 110402DSP-Milw-94 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information: Age: 2 years Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: African American
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 4/2/11

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

On April 2, 2011 the child was taken to the emergency room by the mother's boyfriend, where he was pronounced dead. The boyfriend reported that he was babysitting the child and giving him a bath. Reportedly, he left the child unattended in the bathroom and returned later to find him face down in the bath water. Hospital staff were suspicious because the child was fully clothed and was neither wet nor damp. Bruising to the head and lower back was also noted. The autopsy found that the child suffered blunt force injuries to the head, thorax, cheek, abdomen, pelvis and lower extremities. There was no water in the child's lungs. The cause of death is homicide due to multiple blunt force injuries. The boyfriend has been charged with 1st Degree Reckless Homicide. A criminal charge is an allegation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse and neglect to the child by the mother's boyfriend. Neglect to the child by the mother was also substantiated. The child's injuries occurred when he was being cared for by the boyfriend while the mother was attending a class. The child's mother allowed the boyfriend unsupervised access to her son despite the fact that he was criminally charged with physically abusing the child in 2010.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The child resided with his mother.

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:

In October 2010 the agency screened in and substantiated an allegation of physical abuse to the child by the boyfriend. The mother did not allow the boyfriend to be around her son following the incident, and no further services were needed. The case was closed.

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:

See above

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 and neglect by the boyfriend and neglect by the mother. There are no other children in the home, and the mother does not provide care for any other children. The mother refused to participate in the initial assessment and refused services. The case was closed.

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 child's death. Agency staff collaborated with law enforcement during the initial assessment. Initially, the mother was interviewed by the agency worker but then declined to participate further. 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.