

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

Case Tracking Number: 110528DSP-Milw-113 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information: Age: 10 months Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: Hispanic
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 5/28/11

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

The child was convulsing and was taken to the emergency room by his father, where he was pronounced deceased. The father initially denied injuring the child, but later explained that the baby fell after he tossed him into the air a few times, hitting the baby's head on a table. Another child of the father was present at the time and disclosed differing details that described the father physically abusing the baby. He described that his father "snapped" when the child was fussing. Reportedly, the father put a pillow over the baby's face, threw a remote control that hit him in the head, and then the baby's head struck the wall when he was thrown onto the couch. When the child tried to get up, his father again threw him on the couch. The child then passed out and began convulsing. The father is criminally 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 to the infant by his father and unsubstantiated emotional damage/abuse to the deceased child's half-sibling. The half-sibling was determined safe in his mother's care. The child lived with his mother and had visits with his father. The father and child were together overnight on Friday, May 27, with the child returning to his mother's home on Saturday morning. The father then requested to have the child again later on Saturday. The child's half-sibling was present in the home during the maltreatment and described the events (see previous section). The half-sibling also described other incidents of the father striking the baby in the past.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The infant lived with his mother and maternal relatives. Prior to the incident, the infant's two half siblings lived with their mother and the father in a separate residence.

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 substantiated physical abuse to the child by his father. The agency unsubstantiated emotional damage/abuse to the child's half-sibling, who was present and witnessed the fatal injuries. The deceased child was the only child of his mother. Additional services for the mother were not needed, and the agency closed her case. The half-siblings were

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determined safe in their mother's care. They were medically evaluated and no injuries were noted. The half-siblings and their mother were referred to community services. The case was closed with the agency.

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 two CPS Reports in response to the incident. Physical abuse to the deceased child by his father was substantiated. Maltreatment to the half-sibling was unsubstantiated. The half-sibling's family was assessed and determined safe in their mother's care. The agency ensured that the half-siblings were medically evaluated, due to the severity of the maltreatment to their brother. The agency worked with the half-siblings' mother to develop a no-contact plan for implementation when or if the father is released from jail. Both the mother and stepmother's cases were closed after services were offered to the families.

***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.