

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

Case Tracking Number: 110531DSP-Grant-112 Agency: Grant County Dept. of Social Services

Child Information: Age: 2 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 5/31/11

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

The baby was taken to the emergency room by his mother, father and a relative after the father found a bump on his head. The father was home alone providing care for the baby, when he noticed that child's breathing seemed quieter than usual, and he vomited after he was given a bottle. The child had a skull fracture, subdural hematoma and bruising on his legs and chest. He was med-flighted to Children's Hospital, where it was determined that the child injuries were caused by forceful impact. The father described instances where the child may have bumped his head or was knocked over on the floor by another child, which were not plausible explanations for the injuries. The father then admitted that he had become frustrated with the child and used too much force while placing the child into his car seat, striking his head on a table. The father has been criminally charged with Child Abuse - Reckless Causion of Great Bodily Harm and two counts of Child Abuse - Intentional Causion of Bodily Harm.

### 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 his father's care and safe in the care of his mother. The mother was not at home while the father was caring for the baby and another young child. The baby has a history of being colicky and fussy. The father stated that sometimes he "cannot handle" caring for the two young children, especially in the afternoons when the baby is cranky and the other child is very active. The father explained that he became frustrated that the other child was awake when he had just gotten the baby to sleep. He forcefully placed the baby into the car seat, striking his head on the table. The bruising to the legs were caused when the father used too much force while attempting a procedure with the baby taught to the mother by a chiropractor. He admitted that the child's squirming during the procedure frustrated him.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The baby lived with his mother, father, and two relatives in the relatives' home. The father also watched another relative's child on occasion during the day.

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 maltreatment to the baby by his father. The child was determined unsafe in his father's care and safe in his mother's care. The agency took temporary physical custody of the infant, but the father confessed when he realized the child would not be returned to the mother's care due to the unexplained injuries. A safety plan was implemented that required the father to reside at a different location and his visits with the baby be supervised. After participating in agency services for several weeks, the father was allowed to return home, but all of his interaction with the child continues to be supervised. The parents and child have been referred to community services. The family is receiving Ongoing Services case management from 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 the injuries to the child, substantiating physical abuse by his father. A protective plan to take custody of the child was initiated but discontinued when the father confessed. The child was determined unsafe in the father's care, and a safety plan was implemented. The child was determined safe in his mother's care. Visits between the father and child are supervised. The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals during the initial assessment. The agency identified services needed by the family and referred them to community resources. The case remains open with the agency for 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.