

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

Case Tracking Number: 110606DSP-Winn-115 Agency: Winnebago County Dept. of Human Services

Child Information: Age: 5 months Gender:  Female  Male  
Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian  
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 6/6/11

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

On June 6, 2011 the parents called 911 when they found their baby unresponsive in her crib. Attempts to revive her were unsuccessful. The child was put into bed on a Boppy pillow, with a bottle in her mouth that was propped up on a blanket. When the father checked on her several hours later, there was milk and vomit in her mouth. Reportedly, the child appeared to have choked or spit up formula and aspirated it. Pulmonary edema and foaming was found in her airways, and there were no injuries on the child's body. No criminal charges were filed in connection with the child's death.

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

This maltreatment determination was overturned upon appeal. The case record now indicates that the allegation of maltreatment to the children is unsubstantiated.

At the conclusion of the initial assessment, the agency substantiated neglect to the deceased child and her half-sibling by her parents, and the sibling was determined unsafe in the care of her mother and stepfather. The sibling was put to bed on at approximately 8:00 p.m. in the baby's room on June 5. Later, the baby was moved from her parents' bed to her crib, where her head was placed on the Boppy pillow. Her father checked on her at 3:00 a.m. and gave her a bottle at 4:00 a.m. He checked on her again at 6:30 a.m., giving her the same bottle again by propping it on a blanket. He returned to his own bed. At 1:15 p.m. the sibling woke the parents by calling for her stepfather. The father went into their bedroom and found the baby unresponsive in her crib. Reportedly, the parents often propped the baby's bottle during many of her feedings, leaving her unsupervised in her crib this way.

### Additional information for children in home:

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

The baby lived with her mother, father, and half-sibling.

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 neglect to the deceased child and her half-sibling by the parents. The surviving child was determined unsafe in her mother's and stepfather's care. The agency implemented a protective plan allowing the child to

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remain with her parents with supervision at all times. Several family members and friends volunteered to provide the supervision. The agency referred the child to services and started working with the parents on needs identified during the initial assessment. The court dismissed the petition for court ordered services for the surviving child and parents, and the parents refused to voluntarily participate in agency services. The agency was forced to close the case prior to achieving case goals and safety of the sibling. The family appealed the determination, and the agency overturned the finding of substantiated.

**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 the child's death. Neglect to the baby and her sibling was substantiated, and the sibling was determined unsafe in her mother and stepfather's care. The agency collaborated with law enforcement during the initial assessment. The agency implemented and monitored a protective plan that required supervision of the parents' interaction with the sibling. The sibling was referred to services, and services were offered to the parents. The agency petitioned the court to provide CPS Ongoing Services to the family, and the petition was dismissed. The agency closed the case when the family refused to voluntarily participate in services. The family appealed the determination, and the agency overturned the finding of substantiated.

**\*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.