

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

Case Tracking Number: 110811DSP-Monr-136 Agency: Monroe County Dept. of Human Services

Child Information: Age: 4 weeks Gender: Female Male
Race or Ethnicity: African American-Caucasian
Special needs: None

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

Date of Incident: 8/11/11

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

The child was taken to the local emergency room by her father with a swollen left leg that she was unable to move. The doctor ordered transfer of the child by ambulance to St. Mary's Children's Hospital in Rochester, MN. Injuries that were diagnosed during the initial examination included a broken left femur, possible broken left humerus (later determined to be soft tissue damage), a broken rib and bloodshot eyes probably due to squeezing rather than shaking. The father offered two different explanations that included two different dates/incidents for these injuries. The doctor determined that the injuries were nonaccidental, and the father's explanations were not plausible. Approximately 2 weeks later a secondary medical evaluation was performed that confirmed the initial findings and revealed additional injuries. The infant's right tibia and another rib were also fractured. Upon learning about the additional injuries, the father modified his earlier stories to account for them. The injuries were all similar in age, and doctors determined that the various injuries are consistent with being yanked, pulled and squeezed. The father has been criminally charged with Child Abuse-Reckless Causion of Great Bodily Harm.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency substantiated physical abuse to the infant by her father and neglect to the infant by her mother. The infant was determined unsafe in her parents' care. The father reported that he was providing care for the infant on August 7 and August 11, and each time heard a popping noise. He described tossing the child in the air, catching and grabbing her by the leg and arm, and her foot getting caught while he was holding her. The mother denied that the father injured the child. Another family living in the home defended the parents who often watched their children. Medical professionals determined the injuries nonaccidental caused by abuse.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

The infant lived with her mother, father, an older half-sibling, two adult friends, and the three children of the friends. The father has another child that does not live with him.

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 by the father and neglect by the mother. The infant was determined unsafe and

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removed from her parents' care. Visits between the parents and infant are supervised. The mother attempted to protect her husband by denying his actions that hurt their baby. Friends of the family living with them denied that the parents would hurt the infant. The infant's half-sibling is much older and verbalized having no problems at home, reporting only that she dislikes, but does not fear, her stepfather. During the assessment, the parents, the older child of the mother, family friends and their children all moved out of the state, refusing to cooperate further with the assessment. The agency attempted to obtain services for the family in the other state but were unsuccessful. The parents continue to have supervised visits in Wisconsin, and the case remains open for Ongoing Services case management.

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 infant, substantiating maltreatment by both parents. A protective plan was implemented, removing the child from her parents' care. Agency staff collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals during the assessment. Family and other household members participated in early interviews, but then refused to cooperate and relocated to another state. The agency attempted to arrange services in the other state but were unsuccessful. The parents continue to have supervised visits with the baby in Wisconsin. The case was opened 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.