

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

Case Tracking Number: 110926DSP-Milw-151 Agency: Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Scope of DSP Review: No Review. The information contained in this report was provided by the agency.
 90-Day Review

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

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

Date of Incident: 9/26/11

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

On September 26, the agency received a report from the medical examiner regarding a two month old infant who had died following a domestic violence incident between his parents. The parents began physically fighting each other at approximately 2:30am. The mother was pushed into a closet door twice while holding the infant and stated the infant's head hit the door both times. The parents also reported that they were pushing, hitting and scratching one another while holding the infant. The police were called by a neighbor and the father was arrested for domestic violence. The mother reported that she then fed the infant and put him to sleep in his bassinet. She stated that she awoke at 9am and found the infant white and cold, with pus coming out of his nose and mouth. The mother does not have a phone, so she took the infant to his maternal grandmother's house and called 911. The paramedics attempted CPR upon their arrival, but the infant remained unresponsive.

Findings by agency, including material circumstances leading to incident:

The 9/26/11 referral alleging neglect to the infant by his mother was screened in and assessed. Neglect to the infant by both the mother and the father was substantiated. The parents engaged in a physical fight while holding the infant, which seriously endangered the infant's physical health. Both parents failed to protect the child, as they were pushing, shoving, and lashing out at one another while holding a vulnerable child.

The medical examiner was unable to determine a cause of death. No criminal charges have been filed.

Additional information for children in home:

Description of the child's family:

Prior to the incident, the infant resided with his mother and father.

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:

At the time of the incident, the case was in the Initial Assessment process.

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:

A 7/19/11 referral alleging neglect to the infant by the mother was screened in as Alternative Response. The assessment was ongoing at the time of the incident.

A 5/31/11 referral alleging neglect to the unborn child by the mother was screened out as No Threat of Harm or Maltreatment.

A 5/20/11 referral alleging unborn child abuse by the mother was screened out as Multiple Referral of the Same Incident.

A 2/18/11 referral alleging unborn child abuse by the mother was screened in as an Alternative Response. The allegation was unsubstantiated for neglect.

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Division of Safety and Permanence

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 previous section.

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 screened in and assessed the allegations of neglect to this infant. The allegations of neglect to the infant by both the mother and the father were substantiated. The parents were physically fighting one another while holding the infant and failed to protect him. The case was closed as there are no other children in the home.

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:

n/a

Description of all other persons residing in the OHC placement home:

n/a

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.

n/a

Summary of actions taken by agency in response to the incident:

The agency conducted an assessment and substantiated neglect to the infant by both the mother and father. The case has been closed as the infant is deceased and there are no other children in the home.

Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified in the review of the incident:

The DSP did not review this case. The Bureau of Performance Management is conducting a records review of the case and will work with the BMCW as needed if issues related to past practice are identified.

***Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues:**

N/A. No DSP review.

*This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

Yes No Not Applicable – No DSP Review

* If this case is undergoing a review that was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.