

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

Reports submitted to the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) that do not include all of the required information will be returned to the agency for proper completion. Do not identify individuals by name when completing this report. Individuals may be referenced by relationship or position; e.g., mother, father, child, sibling, physician, detective, etc.

Case Tracking Number: 120826DSP-Racin-238 **Agency:** Racine County Human Services Department

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 8 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 8/26/12

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

On 8/27/12, the agency received a report regarding an 8-month-old child who presented at a local hospital with dried blood in his ears and bruise on the left jaw line of his face. The child's grandmother was awarded guardianship of the child on 8/27/12. After returning home from court with the child, the grandmother noticed the child was not acting like he normally did. The child vomited after taking a bottle and the grandmother observed blood in the vomit. The child was also acting confused when the grandmother attempted to interact with the child. The grandmother took the child to the local hospital for an examination and the child was later transferred to Children's Hospital of Wisconsin for further evaluation. Medical professionals found the following injuries to the child: three separate rib fractures, a complete fracture of the right wrist (healing), a complete fracture of the left wrist, a fracture of the smaller bone in the right lower leg (healing), a complete fracture of the left ankle (both bones), blood in both ears (caused by trauma to the ear canals) and facial bruising. Law enforcement was contacted to investigate the cause of the injuries to the child. The mother has been criminally charged with one count of Child Abuse-Intentionally Cause Great Bodily Harm, one count of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Bodily Harm), one count of Neglecting a Child, and two counts of Resisting or Obstructing an Officer. The mother's boyfriend has been criminally charged with one count of Child Abuse-Recklessly Cause Great Harm, one count of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Bodily Harm), and one count of Neglecting a Child. A criminal charge is merely an allegation and a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

Findings by agency, including maltreatment determination and material circumstances leading to incident:

The agency screened in and collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals to complete the assessment. The agency ultimately substantiated physical abuse and neglect to the child by the mother and the mother's boyfriend. The child had been in the care of the mother and the mother's boyfriend prior to the court hearing which granted guardianship to the grandmother. Medical professionals diagnosed the child with "severe child physical abuse" after sustaining a significant number of fractures throughout his body in different stages of healing. The child also had observable bruising to his face and dried blood in the external auditory canal. Medical professionals determined no underlying health issue/disease existed that contributed to the injuries which lead to the diagnosis of abuse. The multiple fractures in various stages of healing suggest the injuries occurred 5-7 days prior to the medical evaluation based on calcification of the bones. The injuries not in a state of healing would likely have occurred within a few days prior to the medical evaluation.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The mother and the mother's boyfriend

Child's residence at the time of incident: In-home Out-of-home care placement

Complete the appropriate following section (A. or B. based on the child's residence at the time of the incident).

A. Children residing at home at the time of the incident:

Description of the child's family (includes household members, noncustodial parent and other children that have visitation with the child and / or in the child's family home):

The child lived with his mother and the mother's boyfriend.

Yes No **Statement of Services:** Were services under ch. 48 or ch. 938 being provided to the child, any member of the child's 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: (Does not include the current incident.)

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. (Does not include the current incident.)

(Note: Screened out reports listed in this section may include only the date of the report, screening decision, and if a referral to services occurred at Access. Reports that do not constitute a reasonable suspicion of maltreatment or a reason to believe that the child is threatened with harm are not required to be screened in for an initial assessment, and no further action is required by the agency.)

On 6/19/12, the agency screened in a report alleging neglect to the child by his mother. Neglect was unsubstantiated and the agency closed the case.

Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 or ch. 938 and any services provided to the child and child's family since the date of the incident:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals to complete the assessment. The agency substantiated physical abuse and neglect to the child by the mother and the mother's boyfriend. The child continues to reside in the home of his grandmother and determined safe in her care. The family declined an offer of services and the agency has closed the case.

B. Children residing 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 any actions taken by agency in response to the incident: (Check all that apply.)

- Screening of Access report
- Protective plan implemented
- Initial assessment conducted
- Safety plan implemented
- Temporary physical custody of child
- Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services)
- Placement into foster home
- Placement with relatives
- Ongoing Services case management

- Attempted or successful reunification
- Referral to services
- Transportation assistance
- Collaboration with law enforcement
- Collaboration with medical professionals
- Supervised visitation
- Case remains open for services
- Case closed by agency
- Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases
- Other (describe):

FOR DSP COMPLETION ONLY:

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

Under the Child Welfare Disclosure Act (Section 48.981(7)(cr), Stats.), the DSP completes a 90-day review of the agency's practice in each case reported under the Act. In accordance with the DCF memo Series 2010-13, dated December 7, 2010 pertaining to the Child Welfare Case Review Protocol, the DSP will complete an on-site review in case #120826DSP-Racin-238.

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

None

Yes No Not Applicable This 90-day summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.

If the case review was not completed within 90 days, the DSP will complete and submit the final summary report within 6 months.

The agency must submit an electronic copy of the completed 90-Day Summary Report to Tara.Muender@wisconsin.gov