

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: 130313DSP-Colum-302 **Agency:** Columbia County Department of Health and Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 4 months Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian

Special Needs: Shunt placed

Date of Incident: March 13, 2013

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

On March 18, 2013, the agency received a report regarding a four-month-old infant brought to the hospital presenting with a subdural hematoma. The child was transferred from another hospital because of concerns that the fontanel area on his head was swollen and bruising was observed on his chest. The mother reported she picked the child up from a visit at the father's home on March 13, 2013. According to the mother, the father told her, after that visit, he no longer wanted to see the child and wanted to terminate his parental rights. The mother reported the child started to have diarrhea then vomiting during the next few days. She took the child to the local emergency room for the vomiting and he was diagnosed with influenza. The mother stated the child's vomiting worsened so she took him to another hospital for follow up on March 18, 2013. The child was transported to another hospital and was admitted to the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

Medical assessment of the infant's condition found a subdural hemorrhage to the left side of his brain, right retinal hemorrhages, possible left retinal hemorrhage, suspicious bruise on the child's chest possibly caused by the imprint of an adult fingernail, no evidence of a coagulation disorder, no history of coagulation problems, specifically no history of unusual bleeding at the time of routine neonatal circumcision; brain imaging did not disclose a brain anomaly or a brain vascular anomaly that would be expected to hemorrhage spontaneously.

The mother reported she has no knowledge of the cause of the infant's injuries or condition. She said she fell on the ice one day with the child but said the child's head did not make contact. The father and his girlfriend reported no knowledge of how the child sustained the injuries, stating the child was fine when leaving their home.

The attending physician concluded the child was subjected to maltreatment in the form of abusive head injury. The infant's injuries were deemed non-accidental and most consistent with Shaken Baby Syndrome although blunt force trauma could not be excluded as a possible cause. The neurosurgeon estimated the child's head injuries occurred anywhere from one week to two to three months prior to the child's hospital admission. The neurosurgeon advised that the subdural fluid indicates at least part of the brain hemorrhage occurred within two to three weeks of the child's hospitalization. The child required surgery to place a shunt which drains excess fluid in his brain resulting from the head injury. The child remained hospitalized until his release approximately six weeks later. The criminal investigation by law enforcement was closed with no arrests or criminal charges filed.

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

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical personnel to complete the assessment. The allegation of physical abuse to the infant by an unknown maltreater was substantiated and physical abuse to the infant by the father was unsubstantiated. Both parents and their live-in significant others were interviewed. All caregivers deny causing the child's serious injuries, accidentally or intentionally. They further denied knowing how the child could have sustained the injuries. The infant was taken into protective custody by the agency and placed at the hospital. The agency then placed the infant into foster care upon his discharge from the hospital as his safety could not be assured in either parent's home. The parents have regular, supervised contact (separately) with the child. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition in juvenile court and is providing ongoing case management services to the family.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom?

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's parents shared 50/50 placement of the child through a Family Court order. The child stayed with the mother, her significant other and her significant other's child for part of the week. When not with the mother, the child resided with the father and his fiancé. The child has two biological siblings that reside with a maternal relative in another state. They are expected to have one visit per year.

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 July 15, 2010, another agency screened in a report alleging neglect to the child and the child's sibling. The other agency completed an assessment and neglect was unsubstantiated. The agency referred the family to a community program for services.

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 screened in and assessed the allegation of physical abuse to the infant. The allegation of physical abuse by an unknown maltreater was substantiated. The infant was taken into protective custody by the agency and placed at the hospital. Upon discharge, the agency then placed the infant in foster care because the safety of the child could not be assured in either parent's home. The parents have regular, supervised contact (separately) with the child. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition and the case remains open for on-going case management services.

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.)

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|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Temporary physical custody of child | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with medical professionals |

- Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services)
- Placement into foster home
- Placement with relatives
- Ongoing Services case management

- 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. The DSP did not identify practice issues during the review of the incident.

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 RobertB.Williams@wisconsin.gov