

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: 130428DSP-Milw-321 **Agency:** Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

Child Information (at time of incident)

2 years old

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Age: 4 months old

Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Hispanic/Caucasian

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: April 29, 2013

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

On April 29, 2013 the agency received a report regarding a two-year-old girl admitted to the hospital with suspicious injuries. The child presented with a bruise on her arm, bruising on her back, skull fractures, a broken leg, a missing tooth, and a broken finger. The caregivers, who are family friends of the parents, provided explanations for all of the child's injuries. However, there was still concern the injuries were indicative of physical abuse. The child's four-month-old sister lived with the caregivers, as well, as an unlicensed non-relative placement. Due to her sister's injuries, the four-month-old was examined by medical professionals, which revealed fractures indicative of physical abuse. Law enforcement continues to investigate but no criminal charges have been 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 Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate physical abuse to the child by an unknown maltreater, while insufficient evidence to substantiate the allegation of neglect to the child by the caregivers was discovered. The agency also found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate physical abuse to the child's four-month-old sister by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals report the girls' injuries are highly indicative of physical abuse, yet both caregivers deny causing the injuries. The agency was unable to identify the specific circumstances of the injuries or any specific maltreater. The agency determined both children unsafe and placed them in out-of-home care. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed in juvenile court for the child. The existing court order for the younger sister's placement was changed to licensed foster care. The case remains open and the agency continues to provide 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):

N/A.

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.)

N/A.

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.)

N/A.

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:

N/A.

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:

At the time of the incident, the child had been living in the home of a family friend and his wife by informal agreement. The child’s father was granted sole custody and placement of the child through family court in 2011. In 2012, the father left the child in the family friend’s home when he went to Mexico. He had no further contact with the family. The caregivers were pursuing private guardianship of the child. The child’s four-month-old sister tested positive for cocaine at birth. At that time, the agency determined her unsafe and filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition in juvenile court. The court ordered the younger sister’s placement with the family friends as an unlicensed non-relative placement.

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

The child and the four-month-old sister resided with a family friend and his wife.

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.

The couple was not licensed at the time of the incident.

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 Bureau of Performance Management (BPM) completed an onsite review in case # 130428DSP-Milw-321 . The review determined: BMCW Access and Initial Assessment practice was in accordance with standards, Chapter 48 requirements, and BMCW policies and procedures. Integrated Family Services practice in the area of safety assessment and intervention was not in accordance with standards.

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

Integrated Family Services will develop and implement a procedure and a tool to review safety plans in order to monitor effectiveness and ensure timely adjustments and modifications as needed.

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