

## 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:** 130728DSP-Fore-426      **Agency:** Forest County Department of Social Services

**Child Information** (at time of incident)

Age: 9 months      Gender:  Female  Male

Race or Ethnicity: American Indian/Alaskan Native, native American

Special Needs: None

**Date of Incident:** July 28, 2013

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

On July 28, 2013, the agency received a report regarding a nine-month-old infant brought to the emergency room to be examined for injuries. Law enforcement responded earlier the same day to a disturbance at the family's residence. The mother was highly intoxicated and allegedly "barricaded" herself and the infant in the bedroom. Prior to law enforcement's arrival, the mother reportedly dropped the infant into the crib causing him to bump his head. The mother then picked up the infant, lost her balance, and fell into a dresser. A relative standing nearby was able to catch the infant so he did not fall to the floor. The mother was observed pushing down on the infant and she refused to allow the relative to check on the baby. Law enforcement escorted the mother out of the home and local rescue personnel were called to check the infant for injuries. The infant was transported to a larger hospital and was admitted for further evaluation and treatment. Medical professionals assessed the infant and determined he sustained two skull fractures during the reported incident.

As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the mother was arrested and criminally charged with Child Abuse-Recklessly Cause Great Harm and Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Great Bodily Harm). 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 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 the maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the mother. Medical professionals determined the child sustained two skull fractures as a result of non-accidental trauma. The agency determined the infant unsafe and placed him with his father upon release from the hospital. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed on the infant and the infant's older brother and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

Yes  No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes  No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The mother.

**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):

At the time of the incident, the infant was residing with the mother. The infant's older half-sister, now two years old, was residing with a relative caregiver who is her legal guardian. The infant's older brother, now four years old, was placed with his father and had visitation with the mother every other week.

**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:**

The agency was providing ongoing case management services to the family when the incident occurred. The ongoing case resulted from a Child in Need of Protection or Services order due to substantiated neglect to the infant's older sister by the mother in December 2012. At the time of the current incident, legal guardianship of the older sister had just been transferred to a relative. Prior to the incident, the agency's last contact with the family occurred on July 8, 2013 at the transfer of legal guardianship hearing involving the infant's older sister and the sister's relative caregiver.

**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.)

On November 16, 2011, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging medical neglect to the infant's older sister by the mother. An assessment was completed, and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The family was referred to community resources and the case remained open with the agency for voluntary ongoing services. The family received ongoing services from December 5, 2011 to December 29, 2011, at which time the case was closed and the family continued to receive services in the community.

On December 27, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's older sister by the mother. An assessment was completed and the allegation of neglect was substantiated. The infant's older sister was determined unsafe and placed in out-of-home care with a relative. A petition was filed alleging the older sister was a Child in Need of Protection or Services. The case remained open for ongoing case management services. The relative caregiver for the older sister was eventually awarded legal guardianship of the sister.

While the case was still open with the agency for ongoing services, Vilas County Social Services Department screened in a CPS Report on June 14, 2013, which alleged neglect to the infant and the infant's older brother by the mother. Vilas County collaborated with the agency to complete an Assessment and the allegations of neglect were substantiated. The infant and the infant's older brother were determined safe in the care of the mother while the case remained open with the agency for ongoing services.

**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 September 27, 2011, the agency screened out a Services Report.

On November 8, 2011, the agency screened out a CPS Report.

On November 16, 2011, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's older sister by the mother. An assessment was completed, and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The family was referred to community resources and the case remained open a short time for voluntary ongoing services.

On January 5, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging medical neglect to the infant's older sister by the mother and the older sister's father. An assessment was completed and the allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated. The agency determined the infant's older sister was safe in the home and was receiving all necessary medical care. The family continued to receive services in the community, so the agency closed the case.

On December 27, 2012, the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's older sister by the mother. An assessment was completed and the allegation of neglect was substantiated. The infant's older sister was determined unsafe and placed in out-of-home care with a relative. A petition was filed alleging the older sister was a Child in Need of Protection or Services. The case remained open for ongoing case management services.

On June 14, 2013, Vilas County Social Services Department screened in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant and the infant's older brother by the mother. Vilas County collaborated with the agency to complete an Assessment and the allegations of neglect were substantiated. The infant and the infant's older brother were determined safe in the care of the mother while the case remained open with the agency for ongoing services.

**Summary of any investigation involving the child, any member of the child's family and alleged maltreater conducted under ch. 48 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 personnel to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the mother. Medical professionals diagnosed the infant with two skull fractures resulting from non-accidental trauma. The agency determined the infant unsafe and placed him with his father upon release from the hospital. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed on the infant and his older brother, and the case remained open to provide ongoing case management services.

**B. Children residing in out-of-home care (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 or other actions that constitute a substantial failure to protect and promote the welfare of the child.

N/A

**Summary of any actions taken by agency in response to the incident:** (Check all that apply.)

- |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening of Access report                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Attempted or successful reunification                                         |
| <input 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 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                           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of protection or services) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation                                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home                                                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services                                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Placement with relatives                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Case closed by agency                                                         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing Services case management                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Initiated efforts to address or enhance community collaboration on CA/N cases |
|                                                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe):                                                             |

**FOR DSP COMPLETION IF RECORD OR ON-SITE REVIEW WAS UNDERTAKEN:**

**Summary of policy or practice changes to address issues identified based on the record or on-site review of the incident:**

N/A

**Recommendations for further changes in policies, practices, rules or statutes needed to address identified issues based on the record or on-site review:**

N/A

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

This 90-Day Summary Report was previously delayed. DSP did determine that releasing the summary report would jeopardize an ongoing criminal proceeding, and delayed posting as provided under Wis. Stat. § 48.981(7)(cr)7.