

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: 131222DSP-Monro-396 **Agency:** Monroe County Department of Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: Unborn Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: Caucasian

Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 12/22/2013

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

On December 22, 2013, the agency received a report regarding the unexplained death of a baby. Medical professionals reported that, on the day of the incident, the mother was found in bed. The baby was found, in the bathroom sink, blue in color, and unresponsive. Medical professionals reported the baby appeared full term with a full head of hair. The umbilical cord, still attached to the baby and the placenta, was over the baby's shoulder and underneath its back. The baby appeared to have been cleaned off. Law Enforcement initiated a joint investigation with the agency the same day.

The mother reported she gave birth to a baby at home; she was not aware of the pregnancy. Mother reported she went to the bathroom to have a bowel movement the baby suddenly "popped out" into the toilet bowl. She reported she immediately pulled the baby from the water and started chest compressions. She reported she performed chest compressions for 30 minutes. Mother said she thought the baby was "still born" and said the umbilical cord was around the baby's neck. Mother reported she placed the baby in the sink and laid down on the bed. The mother reported another adult came into her room and gave her the phone to contact 911.

Other adults in the home reported the baby's mother complained about cramping and pains in her stomach earlier that night. After the mother laid down on the couch to relax, they noted she got up from the couch a short time later and went to the bathroom in her bedroom. The other adult was worried when she didn't return and checked on her. The adult found the mother in bed; the mother told the other adult she just had a baby. The other adult reported she went to look at the baby in the bathroom and it was blue and unresponsive. The other adult stated a phone was retrieved for the mother to call emergency personnel. The other adult stated she did not observe the mother perform chest compressions or hold the baby.

The Medical Examiner's preliminary report shows the cause of death as drowning. Medical professionals determined the baby was breathing until drowning in the water.

The mother was charged with Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Death). 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 professionals to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate the maltreatment of neglect to the newborn by the mother. The mother's lack of necessary care seriously endangered the health of the baby, resulting in death. The mother made no attempts to contact emergency services until 40 minutes after another adult entered the room. The other child of the mother was assessed unsafe and a protective plan implemented with the biological father of the child. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed and the case was opened for 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 baby was in the home of the grandmother, grandfather, the mother, and the child's one year old sibling. The biological father does not reside in the home but has visitation with his child.

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:

The agency collaborated with law enforcement and medical professionals to complete the assessment. The Initial Assessment completed by the agency found a preponderance of the evidence to substantiate the maltreatment of neglect to the newborn by the mother. The mother's lack of necessary care seriously endangered the health of the baby, resulting in death. The mother made no attempts to contact emergency services until 40 minutes after another adult entered the room. The other child of the mother was assessed unsafe and a protective plan implemented with the biological father of the child. A Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed and the case was opened for ongoing 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:

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protective plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Referral to services |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial assessment conducted | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety plan implemented | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collaboration with law enforcement |
| <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Supervised visitation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Placement into foster home | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Case remains open for services |
| <input 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 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:

N/A

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.

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