

6-Month Final 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: 120704DSP-Ocon-359 **Agency:** Oconto County Department of Health and Human Services

Child Information (at time of incident)

Age: 5 Gender: Female Male

Race or Ethnicity: White, Caucasian

Special Needs: None Reported

Date of Incident: 07/04/2012

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

On August 20, 2013 the agency received a report that a five year old child, involved with the agency, sustained a serious burn on July 4, 2012. The father of the child did not seek medical attention until approximately five days after the injury occurred. The child was admitted to the hospital for a three day period and had surgery for burn debridement to treat her second and third degree burns. St. Vincent's hospital called the agency to report this concern on July 10, 2012. A formal access report was not documented by the agency and an assessment of the maltreatment did not occur. The father reported the child fell while carrying a sparkler. Medical professionals had differing opinions on the validity of the father's story. During a visit with a relative, the child disclosed that during a time out, her hands were zip tied above her head to a pole outside. She lost consciousness due to the heat and lack of food and water. When she awoke, she noticed the burn on her arm. She does not remember how the burn was sustained. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the father and the step-mother were both criminally charged with 23 felony counts of 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 allegations of physical abuse and neglect to the child by the father and the step mother. During the criminal investigation, the parents admitted to types of discipline used that ultimately resulted in the serious physical abuse, neglect and emotional harm suffered by the children. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition in juvenile court. The case remains open. The children are placed in a licensed relative foster home and the family is receiving ongoing case management services.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? 23 Felony charges are pending against the father and the step-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 the incident occurred, the child was residing with her father, the father's girlfriend (who is now the spouse), the child's biological sister, and the father's girlfriend's son. The father was withholding visitation with the children's mother during the time of the incident. At the time the incident was reported, the child's sister was living in kinship placement due to substantiated neglect to the children by the father and step-mother.

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:

There were no services being provided during 2012 when the incident occurred; however when the disclosure occurred,

there was an open ongoing CPS case with regards to the family.

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.)

1/8/08 the agency screened in a CPS report alleging sexual abuse to the child by the father. The allegations were unsubstantiated, the children were found to be safe and the case was closed. The family was encouraged to continue counseling.

On 1/26/10 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 3/11/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 8/2/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 8/19/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 11/18/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 12/1/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 12/8/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 12/21/11 a CPS report was screened-out.

On 7/10/12 a report received by the agency regarding current allegation; however this was not documented in the statewide automated child welfare system or assessed by the agency at the direction of the previous CPS Supervisor.

On 5/23/13 the agency screened in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the children by the father and step-mother. The allegations of neglect to the child and her biological sibling were substantiated. The allegations of neglect to the step-brother of the child were unsubstantiated. The child's sister was placed with her paternal aunt due to her condition as a result of the neglect. The child and her step-brother remained living in the home. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition and opened the case for ongoing 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 an allegation of neglect to the children in May, 2013. The Initial Assessment completed by the county agency found was a preponderance of evidence to substantiate neglect to the child and her sibling by the father and the step-mother. The child's sibling was placed with a maternal aunt due to her physical condition as a result of the neglect. During that assessment, the child was interviewed regarding the incident on 7/4/2012, but denied her burn injury was a result of physical abuse.

The agency screened in and assessed the allegation of physical abuse and neglect to the child regarding the incident that occurred on 7/4/2012 and was reported on 8/20/2013. Physical abuse and neglect to the child by the child's father and step-mother were substantiated. The father and the step-mother were arrested for multiple felony charges. The father remains incarcerated. The agency filed a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition and the case is open for ongoing 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 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 |
| <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 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 ONLY:

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

Under 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 Department has determined no further review is needed. This completes the DSP actions related to this incident.

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

None

- Yes No Not Applicable This 6-month summary report completes the Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP) review of this case.