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Governor Tony Evers Secretary Emilie Amundson

Secretary's Office

July 24, 2019

Jeffrey Renk Senate Chief Clerk State Capitol, B20 SE P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707

Patrick Fuller Assembly Chief Clerk Risser Justice Center 17 West Main Street, Suite 401 Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Renk and Mr. Fuller:

In compliance with the 2009 Wisconsin Act 78, the Child Welfare Public Disclosure Act, please accept the attached summary reports prepared by the Department of Children and Families on July 24, 2019.

In accordance with Wisconsin Statutes section 48.981(7) (cr) 3.b., the Department is required to "transmit to... the appropriate standing committees of the legislature under s 13.172(3)" summary reports prepared by the Department concerning incidents of death or serious injury to a child that results from suspected abuse or neglect or incidents of egregious abuse or neglect of a child. The summary reports are also made available to the public on the Department's public website.

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Danielle Melfi Assistant Secretary

cc: Governor Tony Evers

Attachments

## 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:		190426DSP-EauC1-920		Agency:	Eau Claire County Department of Human Services
Child Information Age: 2 years	<b>n</b> (at time	of incident)	Gender: 🔀 Female	🗌 Male	
Race or Ethnicity:	White	/Hispanic			
Special Needs:	None				
-					

Date of Incident: 04/26/2019

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

On April 26, 2019, the agency received a report regarding a child pronounced deceased in the hospital. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. Medical professionals determined the child sustained injuries that were non-accidental in nature. No criminal charges have been filed in this case, and the investigation remains open.

### 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 maltreatment of physical abuse to the child by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals determined the child sustained injuries consistent with non-accidental trauma. At the time of the child's death, four other children were living in the home with the child's biological mother and stepfather. Those children were deemed unsafe and now reside with their grandparents. The family was referred to services and the agency closed the case upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

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):

At the time of the incident, the child resided with her biological mother, stepfather, two aunts, an uncle, a 9-year-old cousin, an 8-year-old cousin, a 7-year-old cousin, and a 5-year-old cousin. The child's biological father had no involvement with the child.

Yes X 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.)

None

# 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 child by an unknown maltreater. Medical professionals determined the child sustained injuries consistent with non-accidental trauma. At the time of the child's death, four other children were living in the home with the child's biological mother and stepfather. Those children were deemed unsafe and now reside with their grandparents. The family was referred to services and the agency closed the case upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

### 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.)		
$\boxtimes$	Screening of Access report		Attempted or successful reunification		
	Protective plan implemented	$\boxtimes$	Referral to services		
$\boxtimes$	Initial assessment conducted		Transportation assistance		
	Safety plan implemented	$\boxtimes$	Collaboration with law enforcement		
	Temporary physical custody of child	$\boxtimes$	Collaboration with medical professionals		
	Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of		Supervised visitation		
	protection or services)		Case remains open for services		
	Placement into foster home	$\boxtimes$	Case closed by agency		
$\boxtimes$	Placement with relatives		Initiated efforts to address or enhance community		
	Ongoing Services case management		collaboration on CA/N cases		
			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.

## 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: 190605DSP-MILW-930 Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services Agency: Child Information (at time of incident)

Gender: Female X Male Age: 2 months Race or Ethnicity: Black/African American Special Needs: None

Date of Incident: 06/05/2019

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

On June 5, 2019, the agency received a report regarding a 2-month-old infant brought to the hospital unresponsive and subsequently pronounced deceased. Medical personnel determined the injuries were consistent with non-accidental head trauma. Law enforcement was contacted and initiated a criminal investigation. As a result of law enforcement's investigation, the father was arrested and criminally charged with 1st-Degree Reckless Homicide. 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 maltreatment of physical abuse to the infant by the father and to substantiate neglect to the infant by the mother. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained head injuries consistent with non-accidental head trauma. The infant's siblings were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed with a relative. A Petition for Protection or Services was filed and the case remained open to provide ongoing case manager services.

Yes No Criminal investigation pending or completed?

Yes No Criminal charges filed? If yes, against whom? The infant's father

## 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 resided with his mother, 1-year-old brother and 5-year-old brother.

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:

At the time of the incident, the agency was assessing the April 3, 2019 CPS Report. The last contact by the agency was a home visit with the mother and the infant's 1-year-old sibling and 5-year-old sibling on May 3, 2019.

## 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 April 3, 2019, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant by the mother. During the assessment period, the infant sustained injuries that resulted in his death, and an additional report was made to the agency regarding the infant's death on June 5, 2019. An assessment of the allegation was completed by the agency and the initial allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated.

On February 24, 2018, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's now 5-year-old brother and now 1-year-old brother by the mother and the mother's significant other. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

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 April 3, 2019, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant by the mother. During the assessment

period, the infant sustained injuries that resulted in his death, and an additional report was made to the agency regarding the infant's death on June 5, 2019. An assessment of the allegation was completed by the agency and the initial allegation of neglect was unsubstantiated.

On March 22, 2019, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

On February 24, 2018, the agency screened-in a CPS Report alleging neglect to the infant's now 5-year-old brother and now 1-year-old brother by the mother and the mother's significant other. An assessment was completed by the agency and the allegations of neglect were unsubstantiated. The case closed upon completion of the Initial Assessment.

On February 10, 2018, the agency screened-out a CPS Report.

# 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 father and to substantiate neglect to the infant by the mother. Medical professionals determined the infant sustained head injuries consistent with non-accidental head trauma. The infant's siblings were deemed unsafe, taken into Temporary Physical Custody and placed with a relative. A Petition for Protection or Services was filed and the case remained open to provide ongoing case manager 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.)

$\ge$	Screening of Access report		Attempted or successful reunification
	Protective plan implemented		Referral to services
$\boxtimes$	Initial assessment conducted		Transportation assistance
	Safety plan implemented	$\boxtimes$	Collaboration with law enforcement
$\boxtimes$	Temporary physical custody of child	$\boxtimes$	Collaboration with medical professionals
$\boxtimes$	Petitioned for court order / CHIPS (child in need of		Supervised visitation
	protection or services)	$\bowtie$	Case remains open for services
	Placement into foster home		Case closed by agency
$\boxtimes$	Placement with relatives		Initiated efforts to address or enhance community
$\boxtimes$	Ongoing Services case management		collaboration on CA/N cases
			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: 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 will conduct a further review in this case.

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

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.