



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Raheemah Shamsid-Deen Hampton
Managing Director
Southeast Region

801 Market Street, Sixth Floor
Suite 6112
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

(215) 560-2249/2823
Fax: (215) 560- 6893

REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:



Date of Birth 03/04/2008
Date of Near Fatality Incident: 09/23/2011

FAMILY NOT KNOWN TO COUNTY AGENCY:

REPORT FINALIZED ON: 05/16/2012:

This report is confidential under the provisions of the Child Protective Services Law and cannot be released.

(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6340)

Unauthorized release is prohibited under penalty of law.

(23 Pa. C.S. 6349 (b))

Reason for Review:

Senate Bill 1147, Printer's Number 2159 was signed into law on July 3, 2008. The bill became effective on December 30, 2008 and is known as Act 33 of 2008. As part of Act 33 of 2008, DPW must conduct a review and provide a written report of all cases of suspected child abuse that result in a child fatality or near fatality. This written report must be completed as soon as possible but no later than six months after the date the report was registered with ChildLine for investigation.

Act 33 of 2008 also requires that county children and youth agencies convene a review when a report of child abuse involving a child fatality or near fatality is indicated or when a status determination has not been made regarding the report within 30 days of the oral report to ChildLine. Philadelphia County has convened a review team in accordance with Act 33 of 2008 related to this report on October 21, 2011.

Family Constellation:

| <u>Name:</u> | <u>Relationship:</u> | <u>Date of Birth:</u> |
|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| [REDACTED] | Mother | [REDACTED] 1988 |
| [REDACTED] | Paramour | [REDACTED] 1988 |
| [REDACTED] | Victim Child | 03/04/2008 |
| [REDACTED] | Maternal Grand Aunt | [REDACTED] 1969 |
| [REDACTED] | Maternal Aunt | [REDACTED] 1971 |
| [REDACTED] | Maternal Cousin | [REDACTED] 1990 |
| [REDACTED] | Maternal Grandmother | [REDACTED] 1966 |
| [REDACTED] | Father | adult |

Notification of Child Near Fatality:

On 09/23/2011, Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS) [REDACTED] report [REDACTED] towards the victim child, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was brought into St. Christopher's Emergency Room by her mother [REDACTED] because the child was vomiting blood and suffering from abdominal pain. During that [REDACTED] it was learned that the child required [REDACTED], [REDACTED] to her body. As a result of these injuries, [REDACTED] deemed this report to be a Near Fatality. The child was [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. The Doctor stated the injuries appear to have been caused by "non-accidental trauma" which is not consistent with mom's account of how [REDACTED] injuries occurred. Mom stated the child [REDACTED] was playing with her 2 year old cousin [REDACTED] and he pushed her over a toy. Also, on 09/24/2011, at approximately 8:31 pm another [REDACTED] report was generated for [REDACTED]. The child had [REDACTED] on her

The [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was deemed as [REDACTED]. A [REDACTED] was completed in the emergency room. [REDACTED] is an only child. Philadelphia Special Victims Unit was notified via a [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was assigned.

Summary of DPW Child Near Fatality Review Activities:

The Southeast Regional Office of Children, Youth and Families obtained and reviewed the [REDACTED] conducted by DHS [REDACTED]. Follow up interviews were conducted with DHS [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (Social Worker at St. Christopher), [REDACTED] (DHS Supervisor) as well as the [REDACTED] ([REDACTED] worker at Delta Community Supports).

Summary of Services to Family:

Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident:

There was no prior Children and Youth involvement with this family prior to the [REDACTED] on 09/23/2011 & 09/24/2011. However, [REDACTED] was taken to the hospital on 09/21/2011 for an injury to her teeth. The child had [REDACTED]. It was explained that [REDACTED] was hopping down the stairs and she fell, causing the injury to her mouth. The [REDACTED] did not call this incident into [REDACTED] because they did not believe this to be [REDACTED].

Circumstances of Child Near Fatality and Related Case Activity:

The victim child [REDACTED] was taken to St. Christopher's Hospital for Children on 9/23/2011 for [REDACTED]. The [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] on that same date and the [REDACTED] on 09/24/2011. The Safety Assessment completed on 09/24/2011 indicated that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were not to have unsupervised contact with [REDACTED] during her stay at the hospital. The child Safety Assessment indicates that the Safety Decision is Safe with a Comprehensive Plan. Safety threats 3 & 4 were identified on the Safety Assessment Worksheet.

Who was interviewed by police: [REDACTED] on 9/23/2011.

DHS interviewed [REDACTED] of Child Protection Program at Christopher's Hospital for Children), [REDACTED] (Social Worker at St. Chris.), [REDACTED] (ER Nurse) and [REDACTED] (maternal aunt).

[REDACTED] was [REDACTED] (Oral Date: 9/23/11) &
 on [REDACTED] (Oral Date: 9/24/11 [REDACTED] (VC's Mother)
 was [REDACTED] on the same cases as her paramour.
 Both [REDACTED] were arrested. The [REDACTED] were completed on 10/11/11. The
 [REDACTED] was based on [REDACTED] from St. Christopher's
 Hospital and the [REDACTED].

DHS and the Philadelphia Special Victim's Unit worked together on this case.
 Per [REDACTED] was arrested on 10/22/2011 and he's still in
 custody at the [REDACTED]. He has the following
 charges: Aggravated Assault, Indecent Assault Forcible Compulsion,
 Endangering the Welfare of Children, Simple Assault, Recklessly Endangering
 another Person, Criminal Attempt-Murder, Unlawful Contact with Minor-Sexual
 Offenses, Indecent Assault Forcible Compulsion, Involuntary Deviate Sexual
 Intercourse with a Child and Corruption of Minors

[REDACTED] was arrested on 10/28/2012 and she is currently residing at the
 [REDACTED] on the following charges: Aggravated Assault,
 Endangering the Welfare of Children, Simple Assault, Recklessly Endangering
 another Person and Conspiracy-Aggravated Assault. Moreover [REDACTED]
 admitted to having some [REDACTED] concerns which includes [REDACTED],
 [REDACTED]. She was receiving [REDACTED] located at
 [REDACTED].

Current Case Status:

[REDACTED] was [REDACTED] from St. Christopher's Hospital on 10/14/2011
 and placed into [REDACTED] though Delta Community Supports. While in [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] has been doing exceptionally well, as reported by her case
 manager, [REDACTED]. The child is currently participating with [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED]. She is reported to be healthy
 and in compliance with all medical and dental regulatory requirements. [REDACTED] is
 4 years old. Her permanency plan is unchanged at this time and remains
 [REDACTED]. However, her mother [REDACTED] is currently [REDACTED] and
 there's a stay away order in effect. Also, her father, [REDACTED], (whom
 [REDACTED] has very little knowledge of) has begun to show interest in her life. He
 resides [REDACTED], Philadelphia, PA. [REDACTED]. His progress is
 slow, but he's interested in getting to know his daughter.

County Strengths and Deficiencies and Recommendations for Change as Identified by the County's Child Near Fatality Report:

Act 33 of 2008 also requires that county children and youth agencies convene a
 review when a report of child abuse involving a child fatality or near fatality is

indicated or when a status determination has not been made regarding the report within 30 days of the oral report to ChildLine. Philadelphia County has convened a review team in accordance with Act 33 of 2008 related to this report which was conducted on October 21, 2011.

Strengths: The collaboration between DHS and the Philadelphia Police Department within the [REDACTED] phase was exceptional.

Deficiencies: None identified.

Recommendations for Change at the Local Level: None at this time

Recommendations for Change at the State Level: None at this time

Department Review of County Internal Report:

The Department has received and reviewed the county's internal report.

Department of Public Welfare Findings:

County Strengths:

The collaboration between DHS and the Philadelphia Police Department within the [REDACTED] was exceptional.

County Weaknesses: Assessing imminent risk on a timely basis:

DHS case record noted that as of 10/06/11 that they were planning to [REDACTED] for both [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. On this same date, DHS [REDACTED] a report of [REDACTED] with a telephone call to [REDACTED]. Moreover, on 10/11/12 the [REDACTED] was submitted to [REDACTED] officially [REDACTED] as [REDACTED]. At this time, the [REDACTED] moved into the home where his mother and sister reside with four children. DHS did not assess the safety of the children in that home (where the [REDACTED] now resides) until 10/19/12.

Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance: None identified

Department of Public Welfare Recommendations

DHS should in a timely manner assess the safety of any children in a household where the county has [REDACTED] on a [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] has moved into a dwelling where children reside.

DHS did not include the photographs pertaining to this case within the case file sent to the regional office; also the [REDACTED] was not signed and dated by the worker or supervisor.