



## REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:

[REDACTED]

**Date of Birth: 12/24/2016**  
**Date of Incident: 11/15/2017**  
**Date of Report to ChildLine: 11/15/2017**  
**CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]**

### FAMILY KNOWN TO COUNTY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGENCY AT TIME OF INCIDENT OR WITHIN THE PRECEDING 16 MONTHS:

Erie County Office of Children and Youth

**REPORT FINALIZED ON:**  
05/04/2018

Unredacted reports are confidential under the provisions of the Child Protective Services Law and cannot be released to the public.  
(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6340)

Unauthorized release is prohibited under penalty of law.  
(23 Pa. C.S. Section 6349 (b))

**Reason for Review:**

Pursuant to the Child Protective Services Law, the Department, through OCYF, must conduct a review and provide a written report of all cases of suspected child abuse that result in a 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.

The Child Protective Services Law also requires that county children and youth agencies convene a review when a report of child abuse involving a fatality or near fatality is substantiated or when a status determination has not been made regarding the report within 30 days of the report to ChildLine.

Erie County has not convened a review team in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law related to this report. The report was unfounded within 30 days of the report on 12/01/2017.

**Family Constellation:**

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	12/24/2016
[REDACTED]	Biological Mother	[REDACTED] 1996
[REDACTED]	Biological Father	[REDACTED] 1996
[REDACTED]	Mother's Paramour	[REDACTED] 1992

\* Denotes an individual that is not a household member or did not live in the home at the time of the incident, but is relevant to the report.

**Summary of OCYF Child Near Fatality Review Activities:**

The Western Region Office of Children, Youth and Families (WRO) obtained and reviewed all current records pertaining to the family. WRO staff reviewed various reports, assessments, and case documentation provided by Erie County Office of Children and Youth (ECO CY).

**Children and Youth Involvement prior to Incident:**

On 01/25/2017, ECO CY, received a child protective services (CPS) report alleging the victim child was not gaining weight, had influenza A, and that the biological mother was not providing proper nutrition to the victim child. During the course of the investigation, ECO CY determined the mother failed to show to two medical appointments, was not following safe sleep practices, and that the victim child had [REDACTED]. Although [REDACTED], the victim child was [REDACTED] and no reason was determined. In addition, ECO CY ascertained the [REDACTED] was advising the biological mother [REDACTED]

██████████. The case was unfounded and opened for ongoing services and in-home nursing was provided to the biological mother.

On 02/03/2017, ECOCY received a CPS report alleging medical neglect after the victim child was ██████████. ECOCY determined the biological mother took the victim child to the pediatrician after noticing ██████████ and ██████████. The pediatrician instructed the biological mother to take the victim child to the emergency room. The report was unfounded as the biological mother took proper steps to receive medical attention.

On 10/31/2017, ECOCY received a CPS report alleging the victim child ██████████. The victim child was transferred to ██████████. ██████████ determined the victim child was suffering from ongoing medical issues with ██████████ and ██████████. The report was unfounded. The case remained open from the 01/25/2017 accepted for services report.

**Circumstances of Child Near Fatality and Related Case Activity:**

On 11/15/2017, ECOCY received a CPS near fatality report regarding the victim child. The victim child was seen at ██████████ on the day of the report for dehydration and an electrolyte imbalance. The allegations stated the victim child was seen multiple times for the same issues. Allegations of causing serious physical neglect of a child through a failure to provide nutrition and/or hydration were registered against the biological mother. A determination was made the victim child was failure to thrive. The victim child was transferred to ██████████ where it was determined again the child was suffering from ongoing illness and issues with constipation. The report was unfounded on 12/01/2017.

ECOCY maintained an open case due to domestic violence allegations regarding the mother's paramour, the biological father moving in and out of incarceration, the biological mother's probation status, lack of stable housing, and the possibility of inappropriate caregivers. At times, there were concerns regarding the biological mother leaving the victim child alone with individuals who did not have specific knowledge of the victim child's medical conditions. Aside from housing, these issues were resolved during the ongoing case.

The case was closed on 01/03/2018 after the biological mother and mother's paramour moved to New York to reside with the maternal grandmother. ECOCY was in contact with the biological mother's probation officer who approved the move. This move was necessitated when the biological mother and mother's paramour were evicted for failing to pay rent. ECOCY made a referral to New York.

At the time of case closure, the biological father was in contact with the agency and had received visitation per a private custody order after being released from incarceration.

**Summary of County Strengths, Deficiencies and Recommendations for Change as Identified by the County's Child (Near) Fatality Report:**

- Strengths in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families;
  - No report was submitted as the county unfounded the report in 30 days
- Deficiencies in compliance with statutes, regulations and services to children and families;
  - No report was submitted as the county unfounded the report in 30 days
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on reducing the likelihood of future child fatalities and near fatalities directly related to abuse;
  - No report was submitted as the county unfounded the report in 30 days
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on monitoring and inspection of county agencies; and
  - No report was submitted as the county unfounded the report in 30 days
- Recommendations for changes at the state and local levels on collaboration of community agencies and service providers to prevent child abuse.
  - No report was submitted as the county unfounded the report in 30 days

**Department Review of County Internal Report:**

The county did not provide an internal report as the report was unfounded within 30 days.

**Department of Human Services Findings:**

- County Strengths:
  - The county provided numerous services to promote the victim child's health as well as sustain change through [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for the victim child.
- County Weaknesses:
  - None
- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency.
  - None

**Department of Human Services Recommendations:**

None at this time.