

**Office of Children, Youth and Families**

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**REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF**



**DOB: 08/04/2006  
Date of Near Fatality: 07/27/11**

**FAMILY KNOWN TO:  
York County Office of Children, Youth, and Families**

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. Section 6349 (b)).

**Reason for Review**

Senate Bill No. 1147 now known as Act 33 was signed on July 3, 2008 and went into effect 180 days from that date, December 30, 2008. This Act amends the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) and sets standards for reviewing and reporting child fatality and near child fatalities that were suspected to have occurred due to child abuse. DPW must conduct child fatality and near fatality reviews and provide a written report on any child fatality or near fatality where child abuse is suspected.

**Family Constellation:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	08/04/2006
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	Grandmother	Unknown
[REDACTED]	Paternal Uncle/babysitter	Unknown

**Notification of Near Fatality:**

On [REDACTED] Father brought the child to the York hospital. Father stated the child was playing outside and he did not know how the child was injured. When child left the room, the child told his nurse that [REDACTED] with a baseball bat. Child has [REDACTED]

Child was transferred from York Hospital to Hershey Medical Center. Child had [REDACTED]. They were as follows: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], resident, stated child was certified in [REDACTED].

**Documentation Reviewed and Individuals Interviewed:**

For this review Central Region interviewed:

- [REDACTED] Supervisor at York County Children & Youth Services
- [REDACTED] case worker at York County Children & Youth Services

Central Region reviewed:

- Child Death Data Tool
- Case file
- Medical Records

**Case Chronology:**

**Previous CY Involvement:**

Mother was involved from [REDACTED] on another child named [REDACTED]. The allegations were [REDACTED] father severely injured [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] knew about the abuse. [REDACTED] was indicated as a perpetrator by omission, and her [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] was involved with the Agency again in 2010 due to [REDACTED], and called the Agency for assistance in parenting. She was given information for Head start/Early Intervention for services. The case was [REDACTED] for services at that time.

The referral on 6/14/11 had concerns with lack of supervision. The referral states that [REDACTED] would have sex with his girlfriend upstairs while [REDACTED] was alone downstairs.

Caseworker went out to the home on 6/17/11 and again on 6/23/2011. On 6/17/11 child, father and grandmother were seen in the home and they denied the allegations. It was revealed that [REDACTED] was living in the home at the time, and would supervise [REDACTED] denied leaving [REDACTED] unsupervised. An In home safety assessment was completed on 6/17/11 with no threats present. On 6/29/2011 an additional safety assessment was completed with no threats present.

The risk assessment was completed in a timely manner with low overall risk and severity. On 6/30/2011 allegations could not be substantiated and the case was closed. The appropriate letters went out to the parties involved.

**Circumstances of Child's Near Fatality:**

[REDACTED] Father brought the child to the York hospital. Father stated the child was playing outside and he did not know how the child was injured. When child left the room, the child told his nurse that [REDACTED] with a baseball bat. Child has [REDACTED].

Child was transferred from York Hospital to Hershey Medical Center. Child has [REDACTED]. They are as follows: [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] stated child is [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] was released from the hospital on Tuesday, August 2, 2011 and was placed in the care of the Mother's [REDACTED] as emergency caretaker. Safety plan is supervised visitation with Mother by the caretakers and no contact with Father. The agency will monitor the safety plan.

The County held the Act 33 meeting on this case on 8/29/11 at the York Hospital. There is no evidence to show that the father caused the injuries to the child. Findings in the investigation determine that there are several possibilities as to what caused the child's injuries such as the child was messing around with the dog and the [REDACTED], and the child could have fallen into the tomato planter in the backyard. It is unclear how the child received the injuries.

York County Children & Youth Services [REDACTED] with the father, [REDACTED] on 9/22/11. The child is back with his father as [REDACTED]

#### **Current/Most Recent Status of Case:**

The child is back with his father [REDACTED] on September 6, 2011. There are no lasting traumatic effects that are known, and the child is doing well. The family [REDACTED] with the agency and services are in place to continue to check in on the family. There is no current safety plan. The family is working with [REDACTED] to provide them with connections to family resources.

The child is scheduled to receive follow up appointments with his physician at York Hospital Community Health Center as well as follow up appointments at Hershey Medical Center for [REDACTED] to monitor the healing process of the [REDACTED] that were [REDACTED]

The most recent referral of [REDACTED] York County Children, Youth and Family Services [REDACTED]. The child's injuries could not be determined to be caused by a caretaker. The child disclosed during the investigation that he was bitten by a dog at his uncle's house.

#### **Services to Children and Families:**

The family is working with [REDACTED] to provide them with connections to family resources. The family is also working on scheduling an [REDACTED]. Mother was given information for Head Start/Early Intervention in 2010 for [REDACTED]. Mother followed through with getting [REDACTED] enrolled.

**County Strengths and Deficiencies as identified by the County's Near Fatality Report:**

A near fatality review team meeting was held on 8/29/2011 in conjunction with the Act 33 requirements [REDACTED] assigned to York County Children, Youth and Families attended the meeting. There is no evidence to show that [REDACTED] caused the injuries to the child.

County strengths include the agency's collaboration with the law enforcement officials, the safety planning completed by the agency and the agency's ability to find a kinship care provider for the child during the investigation.

**County Recommendations for changes at the Local Levels as identified by Fatality Report:**

There were no recommendations for change at the local level identified by the Near Fatality report

**Recommendations for change at the State Level:**

There were no recommendations for change at the state level identified by the Near Fatality report.

**Central Region Findings:**

The investigation completed by York County Children, Youth and Families was conducted in a timely fashion and in collaboration with the York City Police Department. The agency provided necessary services to all family members and was able to keep the child safe during the investigation and after the investigation

Safety assessment and planning was completed thoroughly. The safety plans were timely, inclusive of family and care providers input and signatures. Referrals for services were completed and necessary services were coordinated.

**Statutory and Regulatory Compliance Issues:**

York County Children, Youth and Family Services conducted a thorough and timely investigation in conjunction with the law enforcement officials. Safety assessments were completed and the victim child was able to be placed with kinship care providers during the investigation. Referrals for services were completed and necessary services were coordinated for the family.