

CHILD WELFARE AGENCY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FORM

Date: 12/11/14

Agency Name: Washoe County Department of Social Services

Agency Address: P.O. Box 11130, Reno, NV 89520

Date of written notification to the Division of Child and Family Services and Legislative

Auditor: 7/14/14

Internal reference UNITY ID or Report Number: Case#136491; Report#1627995

Type of Report:  48 Hour Notice  15 Day Update  30 Day Update  Final

Child Fatality Date of Death:

Near Fatality Date of Near Fatality: 7/13/14

Portions of information on this form have been withheld at the request of \_\_\_\_\_ law enforcement.

(Name of agency)

Information for Release:

A. Date of the notification to the child welfare agency of the death of a child:

7/13/14

B. Location of child at the time of death or near fatality (city/county):

Sparks/Washoe

C. A summary of the report of abuse or neglect and a factual description of the contents of the report:

Near fatality of a 5 yr old child who suffered a near drowning in the river. The child was released from the hospital on 8/11/14.

D. The date of birth and gender of child:

9/14/08 – Male child

E. The date that the child suffered the fatality or near fatality:

7/13/14

F. The cause of the fatality or near fatality, if such information has been determined:

Child was playing in the river and was swept under water leading to near fatality.

**G. Whether the agency had any contact with the child or a member of the child's family or household before the fatality or near fatality and, if so:**

- (1) The frequency of any contact or communication with the child or a member of the child's family or household before the fatality or near fatality and the date on which the last contact or communication occurred before the fatality or near fatality;
- (2) Whether the agency which provides child welfare services provided any child welfare services to the child or to a member of the child's family or household before or at the time of the fatality or near fatality;
- (3) Whether the agency which provides child welfare services made any referrals for child welfare services for the child or for a member of the child's family or household before or at the time of the fatality or near fatality;
- (4) Whether the agency which provides child welfare services took any other actions concerning the welfare of the child before or at the time of the fatality or near fatality; and
- (5) A summary of the status of the child's case at the time of the fatality or near fatality, including, without limitation, whether the child's case was closed by the agency which provides child welfare services before the fatality or near fatality and, if so, the reasons that the case was closed.

4-6-95 Unsubstantiated: Report alleges that the mother left her four children home alone while she went to work and the nine year old called his father telling him they were alone.

5-17-95 Unsubstantiated: Report alleges that a sibling had a healing scar on her face caused by her mother.

11-5-96 Unsubstantiated: Report alleges that a sibling reported that her mother hit her with a shoe.

12-17-96 Unsubstantiated: Report alleges that mother is homeless and moving from friend to friend.

5-5-97 Unsubstantiated: Report alleges that the children were with their father and his wife was being mean to them. Also reported was the 2 older children allegedly had bruises on hands reported to be from step mother.

4-12-00 Unsubstantiated: Report alleged that the mother was having her daughter excused from school due to a "severe ingrown toenail." Concern that mother was using daughter to babysit younger siblings.

6-5-00 Unsubstantiated: Report alleges that when the children are not adequately cared for and do not get enough food when with their father.

2-21-02 Unsubstantiated: Report Alleges that a sibling is not in school and ran away is staying with an 18 year old boyfriend and is four months pregnant. The father was aware of where she was staying and stated he did not want to force her to return home or she would run away again. He was referred to community services. The case was closed Unsubstantiated as there was an adult able to provide care.

6-15-05 Assessment with Service: The mother filed a request for a TPO against the children's father, stating she was attempting to get the father to leave the home because she (mother) was violent towards him. This case was closed after the Mother requested help through the courts to obtain a TPO out of concern for her own behavior. The father was in jail and not in the home and the mother declined ongoing services.

12-26-06: Unsubstantiated: Report received advising that the father became angry at a sibling for trying to parent one of the younger children. He reportedly hit him causing bruising and was arrested for child abuse. The mother's oldest child assumed care of her younger siblings as mother was in the hospital giving birth to another child.

2-6-07 Unsubstantiated: Report received alleging that the parents kicked out ten year old son after finding detention slips in his backpack. An older daughter intervened telling the parents to stop and the mother "beat her up" and broke a phone over her head. She allegedly had a bruised cheek, swollen and scratched hand, a bruise on her shoulder blade, and a bump on her head.

2-23-07 Unsubstantiated: Report received after the parents allegedly refused to allow one of the older children to live in their home. The youth was taken to an Independent living home through Ujima Youth services that would provide for all of her basic needs. The youth was

**H. Whether the agency which provides child welfare services, in response to the fatality or near fatality:** (1) Has provided or intends to provide child welfare services to the child or to a member of the child's family or household; and (2) Has made or intends to make a referral for child welfare services for the child or for a member of the child's family or household; and (3) Has taken or intends to take any other action concerning the welfare and safety of the child or any member of the child's family or household.

WCDSS completed a joint investigation with local law enforcement regarding the incident that led to the near drowning. The case is now closed. The children continue to be assessed as safe at this time. Resource information was provided to the family.

#### NON-DISCLOSURE NOTICE

**The following information must not be released (see Policy on Public Disclosure of Child Fatality and Near Fatality Information, page 4):**  
1) Information regarding the sibling(s) of a deceased child; 2) the name of the reporting party or individual making an allegation or referral will not be released; 3) if the disclosure of the information would adversely affect any pending investigation concerning a report (NRS 432B.290(3)); 4) if the disclosure violates other federal or state law, including, but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), Family Educational and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), alcohol and drug abuse patient records (42 USC §290dd-2 and 42 CFR §212 (c)(6)), and any other applicable law.