

CHILD WELFARE AGENCY PUBLIC DISCLOSURE FORM

Date: 6/15/18

Agency Name: Washoe County Human Services Agency

Agency Address: 350 S. Center Street (P.O. Box 11130) Reno NV. 89520

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

Internal reference UNITY ID or Report Number: 1397949 report # 1791444

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

☒ Child Fatality **Date of Death:** 6/14/2018

☐ Near Fatality **Date of Near Fatality:**

☐ Portions of information on this form have been withheld at the request of (Name of agency) law enforcement.

Information for Release:

A. Date of the notification to the child welfare agency of the death of a child: 6/14/18

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

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

The parent drove the infant to the hospital where the hospital staff provided life saving measures. CPR was administered immediately upon arrival at the hospital. They were unsuccessful and the infant died.

D. The date of birth and gender of child:
Male; DOB 4/8/16

E. The date that the child suffered the fatality or near fatality: 6/14/2018

F. The cause of the fatality or near fatality, if such information has been determined:
The cause of the infant's death is currently under investigation and an autopsy will be completed.

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.

The Agency has had prior CPS history on both the mother and father in two separate cases.

The mother's history: There are two information only reports in July 2014 and April 2016. There have been two unsubstantiated investigations in May 2016 and February 2017.

July 3, 2014 Information Only report for substance exposed infant April 10, 2016
Information Only report for Substance exposed infant. May 18, 2016
UNSUBSTANTIATED for physical risk February 13, 2017 UNSUBSTANTIATED for physical abuse

The father's history is with another mother: There are three information only reports in January 2013, February 2014 and August 2, 2014. There have been three investigations in which two have been substantiated in June 2014 and August 21, 2014. The March 2015 investigation was unsubstantiated.

January 15, 2013 Information Only report for inadequate supervision February 4, 2014
Information Only reports for inadequate supervision June 19, 2014 SUBSTANTIATED for physical risk August 2, 2014 Information Only report for inadequate supervision August 2, 2014 SUBSTANTIATED for inadequate supervision. March 5, 2015
UNSUBSTANTIATED for abuse (mental injury)

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.

WCHSA is assessing the family currently. There is an older sibling (age 5), she will be staying with extended family. The Agency has already assessed the extended family and determined they are safe and appropriate caregivers. LEA investigation will continue. WCHSA will be providing referrals to the family for grief and loss services and any other services that may be needed.

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.

ATTACHMENT

Administration on Families and Children, Child Welfare Policy Manual, CAPTA, Section 2 excerpt, March 16, 2006:

2.1A.4 CAPTA, Assurances and Requirements, Access to Child Abuse and Neglect Information, Public disclosure

1. Question: The CAPTA amendments at section 106 (b)(2)(vi) require States to provide for the public disclosure of findings or information about a case of child abuse or neglect which results in a child fatality or near fatality. For the purposes of this requirement, what is considered a "near fatality"?

Answer: A "near fatality" is defined under section 106 (b)(4)(A) as "...an act that, as certified by a physician, places the child in serious or critical condition." For example, if hospital records reflect that the child's condition is "serious" or "critical", this would be considered a "near fatality" under CAPTA.

- **Source/Date:** ACYF-NCCAN-PIQ-97-01 (3/4/97) (updated 2/3/05)
- **Legal and Related References:** Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) - section 106

2. Question: The requirement for public disclosure states that "findings or information" about a case must be disclosed. Does this mean that States have the option to disclose either the findings of the case, or information which may be general in nature and address such things as practice issues rather than provide case-specific information?

Answer: No. The intent of this provision was to assure that the public is informed about cases of child abuse or neglect which result in the death or near death of a child. As with the use of the other "or's" in this provision ("child abuse or neglect" and "child fatality or near fatality"), we understand the language to be inclusive and not limiting.

Specifically, the reference to "findings or information" requires the disclosure of information about such a case even if there are no findings. Thus, when child abuse or neglect results in the death or near death of a child, the State must provide for the disclosure of the available facts. However, nothing in this provision should be interpreted to require disclosure of information which would jeopardize a criminal investigation or proceeding.

- **Source/Date:** ACYF-NCCAN-PIQ-97-01 (3/4/97) (updated 2/3/05)
- **Legal and Related References:** Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) - section 106