



## **REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF:**

[REDACTED]

**Date of Birth: 11/29/2014**  
**Date of Incident: 05/09/2015**  
**Date of Report to ChildLine: 05/10/2015**  
**CWIS Referral ID: [REDACTED]**

**FAMILY NOT KNOWN TO COUNTY CHILD WELFARE AT TIME OF INCIDENT  
OR WITHIN THE PRECEDING 16 MONTHS:**

Beaver County Children and Youth Services

**REPORT FINALIZED ON:**  
9/15/15

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:**

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, 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.

Act 33 of 2008 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. Beaver County Children and Youth Services (BCCYS) did not have to convene a review team. BCCYS completed the Child Protective Service (CPS) investigation within thirty days of the date of the oral report with a status determination of unfounded. The status report was filed with ChildLine on 05/12/2015 and BCCYS closed the case on this family.

**Family Constellation:**

<u>First and Last Name:</u>	<u>Relationship:</u>	<u>Date of Birth:</u>
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED] 1991
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED] 1990
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED] 2010
[REDACTED]	Victim Child	[REDACTED] 2014

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

The Western Region Office of Children, Youth and Families (WERO) obtained and reviewed all current records pertaining to the victim child and the family. WERO staff conducted interviews with the following Beaver County staff: Intake Caseworker, Supervisor, and Administrator. These interviews occurred on 06/11/2015.

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

BCCYS did not have prior contact with the victim child and family.

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

The mother stated that after the children's father went to work on 05/09/2015 she was watching TV with the victim child and his brother in her bed. She must have fallen back asleep. She woke up when she heard the victim child crying. He was lying on his back on a pillow on the floor. The mother stated that the victim child had a bump on his head after the incident, but was not fussy. On 05/10/2015, the mother stated that the victim child's head felt squishy, she called her mother who

told her to take the child to the hospital. The victim child was taken to the local Medical Center of Beaver where the victim child [REDACTED] that the treating physician stated could have been caused by potential abuse/neglect.

The victim child was then transferred via ambulance to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. The physicians [REDACTED] However, the physicians at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh stated that the child's injuries were considered a low force injury which is consistent with the explanation given by the mother. Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh physicians did not find that the injury was caused by abuse or neglect.

BCCYS requested and received all of the medical records on this case. BCCYS unfounded the CPS report on 05/12/2015. The agency had consulted with a physician from Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh's Child Advocacy Center who stated that the victim child's injury was not a near fatality. There was no evidence that the victim child had sustained [REDACTED] BCCYS completed the CPS assessment and closed the case on the family on 05/12/2015.

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

The county was not required to convene a team to review this near fatality report due to the case being Unfounded within 30 days of the date of oral report. Likewise BCCYS was not required to submit a County Near Fatality report on this case since the CPS report was completed within thirty days of the date of the oral report.

**Department Review of County Internal Report:**

Since the County was not required to submit a report the Department did not have a report to review.

**Department of Human Services Findings:**

- County Strengths: BCCYS conducted their investigation timely and assessed the safety of the victim child's brother. BCCYS requested and received all medical records pertaining to this case. BCCYS consulted with the physicians at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh prior to making their determination on the CPS report.
- County Weaknesses: None noted at this time.
- Statutory and Regulatory Areas of Non-Compliance by the County Agency. BCCYS met all statutory and regulatory requirements.

**Department of Human Services Recommendations:**

BCCYS should continue to investigate and assess all reports that they receive timely and efficiently as shown in this case. They also need to continue to consult with the medical and law enforcement official during their assessment phase to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all the children in the homes they are assessing.

BCCYS should review the Special Transmittal that was issued on October 28, 2008 titled "Safe Sleep Environment Recommendations for Infants One Year of Age and Younger". This Transmittal includes resources that caseworkers can share with the families that they are working with on safe sleeping arrangements.