



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

**OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

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**REPORT ON THE NEAR DEATH OF**



**BORN: January 19, 2010**

**DATE OF INJURY: March 23, 2010**

**FAMILY KNOWN TO:**  
**Family not known to agency prior to this report.**

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. 6349 (b))

**Reason for Review.**

Senate Bill No. 1147, now known as Act 33 was signed on December 30, 2008 and went into effect 180 days from that date. This Act amends the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) and sets standards for reviewing and reporting child fatalities and near child fatalities as a result of suspected 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.

**1. Family Constellation:**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Relationship</u>  | <u>Date of Birth</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| [REDACTED]  | Victim Child         | 01/09/2010           |
| [REDACTED]  | Father               | [REDACTED] 1983      |
| [REDACTED]  | Mother               | [REDACTED] 1989      |
| [REDACTED]  | Half-Brother         | Not Available        |
| [REDACTED]  | Paternal Grandmother | Not Available        |

\* [REDACTED] is also know as: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

At the time of the [REDACTED], 03/23/2010, the living arrangement of the family members listed above was as follows:

- [REDACTED] her father and caretaker, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] mother, [REDACTED] Paternal Grandmother, [REDACTED] lived at [REDACTED] Street, Philadelphia, PA [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED], [REDACTED] mother lived with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] half-brother at [REDACTED] Street, Philadelphia, PA [REDACTED]

**Notification of Fatality / Near Fatality:**

[REDACTED] received 03/25/2010 stating that two months old [REDACTED] came to Germantown Hospital after suffering a Cardiac Arrest. After further [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], it was determined that [REDACTED] had a [REDACTED], [REDACTED], a right [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the [REDACTED]. Father's explanation of "gently" performing CPR on [REDACTED] after having witnessed her having difficulty breathing, was inconsistent with [REDACTED] injuries. [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] from Germantown Hospital to St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. [REDACTED] was in the [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]). The hospital would not say that [REDACTED] was a Near Fatality.

**2. Documents Reviewed and Individuals Interviewed:**

For this review, the SERO reviewed DHS' case record, interviewed DHS [REDACTED] assigned to the case and attended the Act 33 meeting on 04/16/2010. SERO also spoke with new DHS [REDACTED] assigned to case and to Detective [REDACTED] of the Philadelphia Special Victims Unit (SVU).

**Case Chronology:**

03/23/2010- [REDACTED] received by DHS-VC [REDACTED] 2 months old was brought into Germantown Hospital by her father, [REDACTED].

03/23/2010- [REDACTED] was transferred from Germantown Hospital to St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and on [REDACTED] the following was found:

- [REDACTED] to her [REDACTED]
- a [REDACTED] to her [REDACTED]
- she was determined to be in [REDACTED]
- A [REDACTED] showed an [REDACTED], a [REDACTED] and a left [REDACTED]
- A [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED], [REDACTED] s and [REDACTED] which collectively showed [REDACTED] of the left [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and right [REDACTED], all with [REDACTED] visible without [REDACTED].

In light of the findings of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], the diagnosis is [REDACTED]

03/23/2010-Per DHS's Structured Case Notes, DHS SW made visit to St. Christopher's Hospital and met with [REDACTED] father, [REDACTED], Detective [REDACTED] Social Worker (SW) [REDACTED] and Dr. [REDACTED] both from St. Christopher's Hospital. During the meeting, Mr. [REDACTED] advised all that he is primary caretaker for [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED] mother, [REDACTED] is not currently involved as a caretaker for [REDACTED]

- 03/24/2010-Per DHS's Structured Case Notes, DHS SW received a call from Social Worker, [REDACTED], St. Christopher's Hospital for Children who states that [REDACTED] suffered [REDACTED] on the right side and [REDACTED] on the left side with the [REDACTED] being questionable. She informed DHS that [REDACTED] showed that injuries were new and inflicted. The injuries are only days old. Social Worker [REDACTED] informed DHS that [REDACTED] continues to have seizures and will continue to be monitored. DHS informed the SW that [REDACTED] father, [REDACTED], should be denied access to [REDACTED] until further notice.

03/25/2010-Per DHS's Structured Case Notes, home visit to [REDACTED] mother, [REDACTED] home. Ms [REDACTED] stated that she was willing to give [REDACTED] up for adoption after she was born, at which point [REDACTED] father, [REDACTED], said he would keep and care for the child. Later, Ms [REDACTED] had a change of heart and was willing to care for [REDACTED] but Mr. [REDACTED] told her "no." Ms [REDACTED] states that Mr. [REDACTED] was physically abusive to her during her pregnancy but stated she never witnessed Mr. [REDACTED] being physically abusive to [REDACTED]

- 03/26/2010-DHS worker spoke with Detective [REDACTED] who states that [REDACTED] father's account of how [REDACTED] sustained injuries has major flaws and requested more information on [REDACTED].
- 03/26/2010-DHS worker made another home visit to [REDACTED] home and asked [REDACTED] to demonstrate how he performed CPR on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also showed DHS worker how he held [REDACTED] while he ran her to the hospital.
- 04/04/2010- After receiving the additional information from DHS, Detective [REDACTED] informed DHS worker that [REDACTED] was arrested on 04/01/2010 in relation to [REDACTED] injuries.

**Previous CY involvement:**

Family was not previously known to DHS.

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

During a meeting at St. Christopher's Hospital with [REDACTED] father/AP, [REDACTED], Detective [REDACTED], Social Worker, [REDACTED], and Dr. [REDACTED] of St. Christopher's Hospital [REDACTED] gave the following account of the circumstances leading to this [REDACTED]: On 03/22/2010, Mr. [REDACTED] said that his daughter was having difficulty breathing after a feeding session. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that he performed CPR on [REDACTED] before "running" her by foot to Germantown Hospital which is only around the corner from his home.

Per DHS Structured Case Notes, during a visit to [REDACTED] home on 03/23/2010, [REDACTED] mother and [REDACTED] paternal grandmother, [REDACTED] gave the following account of the circumstances leading to this [REDACTED].

Ms. [REDACTED] stated that on the evening of 03/22/2010, she and [REDACTED] were downstairs watching television when they heard [REDACTED] cry over the baby monitor. Ms. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] went upstairs to feed her. Ms. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] was upstairs for about ten minutes when he came downstairs with [REDACTED] and asked Ms. [REDACTED] if [REDACTED] looked grey. Ms. [REDACTED] stated that she told [REDACTED] to take [REDACTED] to the hospital; Ms. [REDACTED] denied seeing [REDACTED] perform CPR on [REDACTED].

**Current / most recent status of case:**

- [REDACTED] was arrested based on [REDACTED] injuries on 04/01/2010; he remains in custody awaiting trial.
- [REDACTED] was discharged to her mother, [REDACTED], after a Plan of Safety was developed through a FGDM meeting.

**Services to children and families:**

- [REDACTED] received [REDACTED], 12 hours of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] day care.

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

No Deficiencies were found.

**County Recommendations for changes at the Local (County or State) Levels as identified by way of County's Near Fatality Report:**

No Recommendations reported.

**SERO Findings:****Statutory and Regulatory Compliance issues:**

None