



Elaine C. Bobick
Regional Director
Western Region

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
BUREAU OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
11 Stanwix Street, Room 260
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

(412) 565-5728
Fax: (412) 565-7808

REPORT ON THE NEAR FATALITY OF



BORN: March 26, 2007
DATE OF NEAR FATALITY: July 09, 2010

**The family was not known to
Erie County Office of Children and Youth**

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 by [REDACTED] 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.

Circumstances of Child's Near Fatality:

On July 9, 2010 Erie County Office of Children and Youth received a report that a 3-year-old child fell out of a second floor window and was certified to be in critical condition by the attending physician at Hamot Medical Center. The child was transported to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and was diagnosed [REDACTED]. The child was admitted to Children's in stable condition and was deemed critical as reported by Hamot.

It was reported to the agency by the family that the family had been visiting a relative and the child was upstairs playing with her older cousin. The cousin left the room to use the restroom and the subject child took a fan out of a window in the room to sit on the window sill and fell out of the window. The child was transported to the Emergency Center by her mother. The child was discharged to her mother's care on July 16, 2010.

Family Constellation:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
[REDACTED]	Child	March 26, 2007
[REDACTED]	Mother	[REDACTED], 1985
[REDACTED]	Father	[REDACTED], 1985
[REDACTED]	Sibling	[REDACTED], 2008

Documents Reviewed and Individuals Interviewed:

The OCYF Program Representative corresponded with the administrator and supervisor of the Intake Unit and reviewed the intake file provided by Erie County Office of Children and Youth.

Case Chronology

On July 9, 2010 Erie County Office of Children and Youth received a referral regarding the subject child falling from a second story window and receiving lacerations from the fall. It was originally reported that the child was in critical condition, however after further examination from a second medical professional; the child was reported to be in stable condition and was admitted for further observation. The child was diagnosed with [REDACTED] [REDACTED], however did not have an internal head injury. The child was discharged to her mother's care on July 16, 2010 and is doing well, with no complications from the fall. The child was referred to [REDACTED] as a precaution by the agency and the case was closed as an [REDACTED] investigation on July 26, 2010.

Previous CY involvement

There is no past involvement with Erie County Office of Children and Youth and no known involvement with any other county children and youth office.

Findings and Recommendations

The Office of Children, Youth and Families believes that Erie County OCY followed protocol surrounding the child near death investigation. The family was not known to the child welfare agency, nor were they known to be involved with any other public/private social service agencies.