

30-Day CIRT REVIEW REPORT Servin-Hill

I. Introduction:

The Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) protocol was adopted by the Oregon Department of Human Services on November 1, 2004. This protocol was developed for the following purposes:

- To specify the Department of Human Services, Child Welfare procedures that will be used when a critical incident occurs;
- To increase the Department's accountability to the public;
- To ensure timely responses by the Department with respect to any critical incident in Child Welfare; and
- To increase the Department's ability to recommend necessary changes to statutes, administrative rules, policies and procedures, practices, training and personnel matters.

The following is a 30-day report as required by the protocol and includes initial findings and next steps. During the next 30-day period, DHS will continue a comprehensive review of these preliminary findings and assess the degree to which these findings have statewide implications.

- II. CIRT Reason:** On 1/31/05 the court granted legal custody of Adriana Servin-Hill, DOB 12/27/04, to DHS, however physical custody was granted to her parents. At the time of her injuries on 2/25/05, Adriana was residing with her parents and was taken to Salem Hospital by ambulance because she had stopped breathing. She had multiple injuries that were not consistent with the explanation given.

A Critical Incident review was initiated and a team composed of Child Welfare staff in Central Office, the Deputy District Attorney of Marion County, and Child Welfare staff in Marion Branch was convened.

III. CIRT Response and Case Status Update:

a. Criminal Investigation:

Adriana's father, Cesar Solorzano-Servin, has been charged with Assault 2 and is currently held without bail in Marion County Jail. Prosecution is pending.

b. Child Protective Service Assessment:

A Child Protective Service assessment regarding the injuries to Adriana has been completed.

c. Child:

The child has been released from the hospital and is in medical foster care.

d. Media Response:

Marion County Deputy District Attorney, Cortland Geyer, will respond to any media inquiries. Patricia Feeny is the DHS media lead.

IV. CIRT Review Process:

a. Case Review Process

The case file review was conducted at the Marion Branch Child Welfare Office by program staff from DHS Central Office.

The Critical Incident Review Team developed a list of questions and defined areas of review related to the protective services referrals, previous case history of both parents, safety plan development, caseworker contact and supervision.

The DHS response to the protective services referral, both intake and intervention, was reviewed. The Team Decision Meeting's assessment of safety concerns and safety plan development was reviewed for compliance with Administrative Rule, policies, and approved practice.

The case file review was used to inform Child Welfare staff at the Marion Branch of specific concerns and to develop

preliminary findings. The review process will also assist in the development of questions for the staff interviews.

b. Staff Interview Process:

Human Resources and Children, Adults and Families (CAF) Administration will conduct interviews with staff and will evaluate personnel-related information. This will be completed during the next 30 days.

V. Initial Findings:

- **Finding:** Review of the safety plan developed at the 2/25/05 Team Decision Meeting indicates that several of the safety concerns identified, specifically the father's domestic violence history and previous history of child abuse, were not addressed in the safety plan.
- **Finding:** Review of the intake process indicated that a significant amount of historical information was gathered on both parents. However, the focus of the assessment was on the mother. It appears information about the father was not given equal consideration in regard to his capacity to provide safety for the child.
- **Finding:** The father provided documentation of attendance and completion of three treatment programs that addressed his history of abuse and domestic violence. Child Welfare staff did not obtain a signed release of information from the father to verify participation, completion and assessment of success of that participation, even though previous workers relayed their concerns about father having contact with any child.

VI. Next Steps:

- Recommendations related to the findings will be completed during the next 30 days. Staff interviews were delayed in the first 30 days and results of those interviews may contribute to these recommendations.

- Human Resources and CAF Administration will continue interviews with staff and evaluate personnel related information. This will be completed during the next 30 days.
- Expert consultation from National Resource Center for Child Protective Services (NRCCPS) will focus on how critical decisions regarding safety of children are being made in Oregon's child welfare cases. One of the issues being reviewed is the common practice in Oregon of the court awarding legal custody to DHS, and the physical custody and placement with the parents.