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commit [1fe9b92eede32574dbe05b5bdb6ad666b350bed0](#) (patch)
tree [afab08c431fc91a794cff0d65ab73cf1fdd75b1f](#)
parent [eee189ccd46b46e4a4b9d787cd65dda5025549e8](#) (diff)
download [linux-1fe9b92eede32574dbe05b5bdb6ad666b350bed0.tar.gz](#)

diff options

context: ▼
space: ▼
mode: ▼

perf/core: Fix WARN_ON(!ctx) in __free_event() for partial init

[Upstream commit 0ba3a4ab76fd3367b9cb680cad70182c896c795c]

Move the get_ctx(child_ctx) call and the child_event->ctx assignment to occur immediately after the child event is allocated. Ensure that child_event->ctx is non-NULL before any subsequent error path within inherit_event calls free_event(), satisfying the assumptions of the cleanup code.

Details:

There's no clear Fixes tag, because this bug is a side-effect of multiple interacting commits over time (up to 15 years old), not a single regression.

The code initially incremented refcount then assigned context immediately after the child_event was created. Later, an early validity check for child_event was added before the refcount/assignment. Even later, a WARN_ON_ONCE() cleanup check was added, assuming event->ctx is valid if the pmu_ctx is valid. The problem is that the WARN_ON_ONCE() could trigger after the initial check passed but before child_event->ctx was assigned, violating its precondition. The solution is to assign child_event->ctx right after its initial validation. This ensures the context exists for any subsequent checks or cleanup routines, resolving the WARN_ON_ONCE().

To resolve it, defer the refcount update and child_event->ctx assignment directly after child_event->pmu_ctx is set but before checking if the parent event is orphaned. The cleanup routine depends on event->pmu_ctx being non-NULL before it verifies event->ctx is non-NULL. This also maintains the author's original intent of passing in child_ctx to find_get_pmu_context before its refcount/assignment.

[mingo: Expanded the changelog from another email by Gabriel Shahrouzi.]

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Link: <https://lore.kernel.org/r/20250405203036.582721-1-gshahrouzi@gmail.com>

Closes: <https://syzkaller.appspot.com/bug?extid=ff3aa851d46ab82953a3>

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Diffstat

-rw-r--r-- kernel/events/core.c 6

1 files changed, 3 insertions, 3 deletions

diff --git a/kernel/events/core.c b/kernel/events/core.c

index b710976fb01b17..987807b1040ae0 100644

--- a/kernel/events/core.c

+++ b/kernel/events/core.c

```
@@ -13419,6 +13419,9 @@ inherit_event(struct perf_event *parent_event,
     if (IS_ERR(child_event))
         return child_event;
```

```
+     get_ctx(child_ctx);
+     child_event->ctx = child_ctx;
+
     pmu_ctx = find_get_pmu_context(child_event->pmu, child_ctx, child_event);
     if (IS_ERR(pmu_ctx)) {
         free_event(child_event);
```

```
@@ -13441,8 +13444,6 @@ inherit_event(struct perf_event *parent_event,
         return NULL;
     }
 }
```

```
-     get_ctx(child_ctx);
```

```
-
-     /*
-      * Make the child state follow the state of the parent event,
-      * not its attr.disabled bit. We hold the parent's mutex,
```

```
@@ -13463,7 +13464,6 @@ inherit_event(struct perf_event *parent_event,
         local64_set(&hwc->period_left, sample_period);
     }
 }
```

```
-     child_event->ctx = child_ctx;
-     child_event->overflow_handler = parent_event->overflow_handler;
-     child_event->overflow_handler_context
-         = parent_event->overflow_handler_context;
```