

CHRISTINE M. COOLIDGE

v.

ROBERT V. JOHNSON et al.

Submitted on Briefs September 25, 2024
Decided December 3, 2024

Panel: STANFILL, C.J., and MEAD, HORTON, CONNORS, and LAWRENCE, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Christine M. Coolidge appeals from a judgment of the District Court (Skowhegan, *Bristol, J.*) dismissing her petition for grandparent visitation without prejudice for lack of standing. Coolidge argues she has demonstrated a sufficient existing relationship with the grandchild to establish standing for her petition for visitation. On this barebones record, we agree.

In accordance with 19-A M.R.S. § 1803(2)(A) (2024), Coolidge filed an affidavit setting forth factual averments to support the conclusion that a sufficient relationship existed between her and the child to support her standing to seek visitation rights. Under section 1803(2)(B), any parent or guardian responding to the petition “shall also file an affidavit in response.” No response, and no affidavit was filed to support any response. Accepting the averments in Coolidge’s affidavit as true, including her averment of a period of guardianship of the child, we conclude that the affidavit is sufficiently supportive of standing to warrant a hearing pursuant to section 1803(2)(D).

The entry is:

Judgment vacated. Remanded for further proceedings consistent with this decision.

Christine M. Coolidge, appellant pro se

Robert V. Johnson and Desiree M. Coolidge did not file a brief

Skowhegan District Court docket number FM-2023-236
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