

IN RE CHILDREN OF JAMES G.

Submitted on Briefs January 7, 2025

Decided January 14, 2025

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The father appeals from judgments of the District Court (Portland, *Woodman, J.*) terminating his parental rights to an older child and determining that a younger child would be in circumstances of jeopardy in his care. The mother also appeals from the judgment finding that the younger child's health and welfare are in circumstances of jeopardy absent a child protection order.¹ The court did not clearly err in finding that the father is unfit to parent the older child pursuant to at least one statutory ground of parental unfitness, and the court also did not clearly err or abuse its discretion in determining that termination of the father's parental rights is in that child's best interest. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(A)(1)(a), (B)(2)(a), (b)(i)-(iv); *In re Children of Jason C.*, 2020 ME 86, ¶ 7, 236 A.3d 438. Moreover, the court did not clearly err by finding that the younger child would be in circumstances of jeopardy in the care of the father or the mother. *See* 22 M.R.S. §§ 4002(6), 4035(2) (2024); *In re Child of Jasmine B.*, 2020 ME 62, ¶ 4, 232 A.3d 240.

¹ Each parent's attorney filed a brief summarizing the proceedings and indicating that the attorney could not identify any arguable issues of merit for appeal. *See In re M.C.*, 2014 ME 128, ¶ 7, 104 A.3d 139. Each moved for an enlargement of the time to file briefs to afford the parents themselves the opportunity to file supplemental briefs. We granted those motions, but neither parent filed a supplemental brief within the time provided.

The entry is:

Judgments affirmed.

Matthew O. Altieri, Esq., Pierce Atwood LLP, Portland, for appellant father

Jason A. MacLean, Esq., Bridgton, for appellant mother

With leave of the Court, the Department of Health and Human Services did not file a brief

Portland District Court docket numbers PC-2022-29 and PC-2023-63
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