

JOSEPH D. LAURINAITIS

v.

TAMAREN R. GRIFFIN

Submitted on Briefs April 25, 2013
Decided April 30, 2013

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and ALEXANDER, SILVER, MEAD, and GORMAN, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Joseph D. Laurinaitis appeals from a judgment from the District Court (Rumford, *Carlson, J.*) upholding the magistrate's order (*Woodman, M.*) requiring Laurinaitis to pay child support. *See Pratt v. Sidney*, 2009 ME 28, ¶ 7, 967 A.2d 685 (“When an appeal is taken from a judgment adopting the magistrate’s order, this Court reviews the magistrate’s order directly.”). Laurinaitis and Tamaren R. Griffin are parties to a 2010 court order assigning shared parental rights and responsibilities, shared primary residence, and not ordering child support. Because Griffin began receiving public assistance on behalf of the child, the Department of Health and Human Services properly moved to modify the child support pursuant to 19-A M.R.S. § 2009(1-A) (2012). Although the magistrate did not have jurisdiction to modify the parents’ rights and responsibilities and did not change the custody arrangement of the parties, she did have jurisdiction to amend the child support. 4 M.R.S. § 183(1)(D) (2012). The magistrate did not abuse her discretion by ordering child support, despite the prior order assigning shared primary residence. *Weston v. Weston*, 2012 ME 50, ¶ 11, 40 A.3d 934 (reviewing child support modifications for an abuse of discretion).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

On the briefs:

Jennifer F. Kreckel, Esq., Kaynor & Kreckel, P.A., Rumford, for appellant
Joseph D. Laurinaitis

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Attorney General's Office, Portland, for appellee Department of Health and
Human Services

Rumford District Court docket number FM-2010-138
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