

LISA FREEMAN et al.

v.

STEVEN DAWE

Submitted on Briefs December 13, 2013

Decided January 7, 2014

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

#### MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Steven Dawe appeals from the judgment of the District Court (Portland, *Goranites, J.*) granting Lisa Freeman’s motion to extend an existing protection from abuse order between the two parties for six years. Contrary to Dawe’s contention, the court did not abuse its discretion when it extended the protection from abuse order four days after the existing order expired. *See O’Brien v. Webber*, 2012 ME 98, ¶ 8, 48 A.3d 230 (recognizing the trial court’s discretion to extend a protection from abuse order after it has expired). Similarly, the court did not abuse its discretion when it concluded that a six-year extension was necessary to protect Freeman and her two children without making an additional finding of abuse. *See Dyer v. Dyer*, 2010 ME 105, ¶ 11, 5 A.3d 1049 (holding that “the threat of continuing harm” is sufficient to extend a protection order and evidence of additional abuse is not required). Finally, the court did not abuse its discretion when it extended an existing protection order that was issued in the original proceedings after an agreement of the parties without a finding of abuse. *See, e.g., id.* ¶ 13 (extending a protection order that was issued after an agreement of the parties without a finding of abuse).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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**On the briefs:**

Matthew Govan, Esq., Govan Law Office, P.A., Portland, for appellant  
Steven Dawe, Sr.

Appellee did not file a brief.

Portland District Court docket number PA-2010-24  
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