

JORDAN D. PRATT

v.

HEATHER M. DILLINGHAM

Submitted on Briefs May 12, 2020
Decided May 19, 2020

Panel: MEAD, GORMAN, JABAR, HUMPHREY, HORTON, and CONNORS, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Heather M. Dillingham appeals from a judgment of the District Court (Newport, *Larson, J.*) determining the parental rights and responsibilities of the parties and ordering that she and Jordan Pratt have shared parental rights and responsibilities with respect to the care and welfare of their minor child, and ordering Pratt to pay child support in the amount of \$184 per week.

We discern no error with respect to the court's application of the best interest of the child standard. 19-A M.R.S. § 1653(3) (2020). The court's factual findings are supported by competent record evidence, and, contrary to Dillingham's contentions, the court did not abuse its discretion in finding that it would be in the child's best interest for Pratt and Dillingham to (1) share parental rights and responsibilities; (2) have equal contact with the child on holidays and during the child's summer vacation; and (3) permit third-parties to perform exchanges of the child between parents. *See Vibert v. Dimoulas*, 2017 ME 62, ¶ 15, 159 A.3d 325 (articulating the standard of review).

We similarly find no clear error or abuse of discretion with respect to the court's child support order based on its determination that the evidence

presented was insufficient to allow it to accurately calculate child support for the period preceding the date of filing, and that the parties had had an informal agreement with regard to support during that period. Therefore, the court did not abuse its discretion in making its child support order retroactive only to the date Dillingham accepted service of Pratt's complaint.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Zachary Brandmeir, Esq., Bangor, for appellant Heather Dillingham

Wayne Doane, Esq., Exeter, for appellee Jordan Pratt

Newport District Court docket number FM-2019-17
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