

IN RE CHILD OF JACOB W.

Submitted on Briefs January 20, 2021

Decided January 28, 2021

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Jacob W. appeals from a judgment entered by the District Court (Newport, *Larson, J.*) terminating his parental rights to his child. Contrary to Jacob W's argument, we conclude that a de novo standard of review is not suitable for our review of child protection proceedings. *See In re Child of Kimberlee C.*, 2018 ME 134, ¶ 5, 194 A.3d 925; *In re Thomas H.*, 2005 ME 123, ¶¶ 16-17, 889 A.2d 297. The court did not err or abuse its discretion in determining that, despite the father's nominal progress in recent months, he remains unable to protect the child from jeopardy or take responsibility for the child within a time reasonably calculated to meet the child's needs, and that the termination of the father's parental rights, rather than a permanency guardianship, is in the child's best interest. *See* 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a), (b)(i), (ii) (2020).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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Jeffrey C. Toothaker, Esq., Ellsworth, for appellant father

Susan P. Herman, Chief Deputy Attorney General, and Meghan Szylvian, Asst. Atty. Gen., Office of the Attorney General, Augusta, for appellee Department of Health and Human Services

Newport District Court docket number PC-2018-10  
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