

IN RE CHILD OF MICHELLE M.

Submitted on Briefs September 21, 2022

Decided October 6, 2022

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Michelle M. appeals from a judgment of the District Court (Ellsworth, *Roberts, J.*) terminating her parental rights to her child. Contrary to her contentions, on this record, the court did not err in finding, by clear and convincing evidence, at least one ground of parental unfitness due to the child's profound mental health diagnoses, the child and mother's need for extensive counseling to address the remaining jeopardy concerns before they can be reunified, and the extreme harm that would result from removing the child from the child's current foster care placement. See 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(A)(1)(a), (B)(2)(b)(i), (ii) (2022); *In re Kayla M.*, 2001 ME 166, ¶ 8, 785 A.2d 330; *In re Colby E.*, 669 A.2d 151, 152 (Me. 1995). We also discern no error or abuse of discretion in the court's determination that termination of the mother's parental rights is in the child's best interest.¹ See 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2)(a) (2022); *In re Kenneth S.*, 2017 ME 45, ¶ 6, 157 A.3d 244.

¹ Furthermore, the court was not required to explicitly consider a permanency guardianship in its order because it is clear from the findings that the court considered the central importance of permanency for the child and concluded that termination of the mother's parental rights is in the child's best interest. See *In re David W.*, 2010 ME 119, ¶ 10, 8 A.3d 673; *In re Kenneth S.*, 2017 ME 45, ¶ 6, 157 A.3d 244.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Mary Kellett Gray, Esq., Brooklin, for appellant mother

Aaron M. Frey, Attorney General, and Hunter C. Umphrey, Asst. Atty. Gen., Office of the Attorney General, Bangor, for appellee Department of Health and Human Services

N. Laurence Willey Jr., Esq., Willey Law Offices, Bangor, for appellee intervenor

Ellsworth District Court docket number PC-2018-25
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