

KATELYN V. ST. HILAIRE

v.

JOSHUA L. BURT

Submitted on Briefs September 25, 2024
Decided October 3, 2024

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Joshua L. Burt appeals from the judgment of the District Court (Lewiston, *Robinson, J.*) denying his petition for modification of his parental rights and responsibilities.¹ 19-A M.R.S. § 1657(1)(A) (2024). After carefully reviewing the record, we conclude that the court did not clearly err or abuse its discretion in finding that there had not been a change of circumstances sufficiently substantial in its effect on the child's best interest since the issuance of the previous parental rights and responsibilities judgment to justify modification.

¹ Burt's petition also sought modification of his child support obligation, but his brief on appeal only cursorily points to facts concerning this issue, and he does not address child support in any of his three arguments in the brief, all of which concern parental rights and responsibilities. Accordingly, any argument concerning child support is waived. See *Melhorn v. Derby*, 2006 ME 110, ¶ 11, 905 A.2d 290 ("An issue that is barely mentioned in a brief is in the same category as an issue that is not mentioned at all."); Alexander, *Maine Appellate Practice* § 404 at 316 (5th ed. 2018) ("Issues properly preserved but not briefed to the appellate court generally will not be considered on appeal. An issue may be viewed as waived or forfeited for lack of appellate development if it is addressed in briefing only in a perfunctory manner that does not demonstrate some effort to articulate the argument." (citation omitted)).

See Jackson v. McLeod, 2014 ME 110, ¶ 22, 100 A.3d 484; *Dickens v. Boddy*, 2015 ME 81, ¶¶ 12-13, 119 A.3d 722.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Joshua L. Burt, appellant pro se

Scott J. Lynch, Esq., Lynch & Van Dyke, P.A., Lewiston, for appellee Katelyn V. St. Hilaire

Lewiston District Court docket number FM-2021-236
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