Decision No. Mem 03-35 Docket No. Aro-02-471

LUCIEN WOO

V.

NOEL HUGHES

Submitted on Briefs February 26, 2003 Decided March 20, 2003

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and CLIFFORD, RUDMAN, ALEXANDER, and LEVY, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Noel Hughes appeals from a judgment determining parental rights and responsibilities (Caribou, *Daigle, J.*) awarding to Lucien Woo primary residence of their child. Contrary to Hughes's contentions, the court's letter to counsel does not constitute findings of fact, and Hughes's untimely request for findings was properly denied pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 52(a). In addition, because the court did not find that Woo had committed domestic abuse, it did not err by not making findings required by 19-A M.R.S.A. § 1653(6)(A) (1998). *See Ricci v. Delehanty*, 1998 ME 231, ¶¶ 8-12, 719 A.2d 518, 520-21 (illustrating the type of findings sufficient to award primary custody to a parent who has committed domestic abuse).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Attorneys for plaintiff:

Peter S. Kelley, Esq. Christopher M. Leger, Esq. P O Box 66 Caribou, ME 04736

Attorney for defendant:

Eugene M. McLaughlin Jr., Esq. P O Box 589 Presque Isle, ME 04769