

STEPHANIE S. CRANDALL

v.

MARSHALL N. CRANDALL IV

Submitted on Briefs June 26, 2003  
Decided July 9, 2003

Panel: CLIFFORD, RUDMAN, DANA, ALEXANDER, CALKINS, and LEVY,  
JJ.

#### MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Marshall N. Crandall IV appeals from a divorce judgment entered in the District Court (Augusta, *Worth, J.*) awarding the primary residence of the couple's three children to Stephanie S. Crandall, prohibiting Marshall from having contact with the children, and awarding the house in Unity to Stephanie. Marshall claims on appeal that the District Court abused its discretion in its determination of parental rights and responsibilities and property division. Marshall also contends that the District Court Judge who presided over his divorce was biased because the

judge also presided over a prior protection from abuse hearing in which Marshall and Stephanie were both involved.

The District Court did not abuse its discretion in awarding Stephanie the primary residence of the children and prohibiting Marshall from having contact with the children because there is sufficient evidence in the record that the court's determination is in the best interest of the children. *See Brandis v. Brandis*, 489 A.2d 1110, 1111 (Me. 1985); 19-A M.R.S.A. § 1653(3) (1998 & Supp. 2002). There is no evidence in the record to indicate that the court abused its discretion in awarding the Unity residence to Stephanie, *see* 19-A M.R.S.A. § 953 (1998), or that the trial judge was biased because she presided over a previous proceeding involving Marshall and Stephanie, *see State v. Rameau*, 685 A.2d 761, 763 (Me. 1996).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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