

IN RE KYLEIGH R.

Submitted on Briefs December 20, 2006

Decided January 16, 2007

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

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The parents of Kyleigh R. appeal from a judgment entered in the District Court (Rumford, *McElwee, J.*) terminating their parental rights pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 4055(1)(B)(2) (2005). Contrary to their contentions, the record supports the court's findings, by clear and convincing evidence, that the parents have (1) been unwilling or unable to take responsibility for the child within a time reasonably calculated to meet her needs, and (2) failed to make a good faith effort to rehabilitate and reunify with her. *See In re Thomas D.*, 2004 ME 104, ¶ 21, 854 A.2d 195, 201. The evidence also supports, to the clear and convincing standard, that termination of their parental rights is in the best interests of the child. *See id.*; *see also In re Michaela C.*, 2002 ME 159, ¶ 27, 809 A.2d 1245, 1253

(“The . . . [c]ourt’s judgment on the issue of best interest [of the child] is entitled to substantial deference . . .”).

Finally, contrary to the parents’ contentions, the Maine statutory grounds for termination of parental rights are constitutional, generally and as applied. *See Rideout v. Riendeau*, 2000 ME 198, ¶¶ 14, 15, 761 A.2d 291, 297-98.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Attorney for appellant:

Curtis J. Rice, Esq.
Carey & Associates
P.O. Box 100
Rumford, ME 04276-0100

Barbars R. Chassie, Esq.
P.O. Box 49
Farmington, ME 04938

Attorneys for appellee:

G. Steven Rowe, Attorney General
Matthew Pollack, Asst. Atty. Gen.
Lou Ann Clifford, Asst. Atty. Gen.
6 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0006

Guardian *ad Litem*:

Michael O’Donnell, Esq.
P.O. Box 511
Bethel, ME 04217