

IN RE FALLON L.

Submitted on Briefs January 24, 2008
Decided January 29, 2008

Panel: CLIFFORD, ALEXANDER, SILVER, MEAD, and GORMAN, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The mother of Fallon L. appeals from a judgment entered in the District Court (Biddeford, *Foster, J.*) terminating her parental rights to Fallon pursuant to 22 M.R.S. §§ 4050 and 4057 (2007). Contrary to the mother's contention, the District Court could reasonably have been persuaded that abandonment was highly probable based on clear and convincing evidence that the mother failed to appear at the hearing. *See In re Brianna K.*, 675 A.2d 980, 982 (Me. 1996); *In re Shannon R.*, 461 A.2d 707, 711-12 (Me. 1983). Furthermore, termination was clearly in the best interests of Fallon since she has not had contact with the mother since 2002 and is attempting to achieve permanency with her new foster family. *See In re Thomas H.*, 2005 ME 123, ¶ 16, 889 A.2d 297, 301-02.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

Attorney for the appellant:

Neil L. Fishman, Esq.
121 Main St.
Yarmouth, Maine 04096

Attorneys for the appellee:

G. Steven Rowe, Attorney General
Janice Stuver, AAG
Karen Dostaler, AAG
State House Station 6
Augusta, Maine 04333-0006

Guardian Ad Litem:

Sandra Romano-Shain, Esq.
P.O. Box L
Sanford, Maine 04073