

STEVEN T. TEEHAN

v.

MELINDA AMES¹

Argued April 14, 2010
Decided April 22, 2010

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and ALEXANDER, LEVY, SILVER, MEAD,
GORMAN, and JABAR, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Melinda Ames appeals from a judgment entered in the District Court (Lewiston, *Tucker J.*) awarding to Steven T. Teehan primary residence of the parties' minor child on Teehan's motion to modify a prior order of parental rights and responsibilities. Contrary to Ames's contentions, as the real party in interest and the child's parent, Teehan has standing to pursue a modification of the judgment of parental rights and responsibilities pursuant to 19-A M.R.S. § 1657(1) (2009).

Further, the court did not abuse its discretion in awarding Teehan primary residence of the child because the record supports the court's findings and conclusions that since the prior custody order was entered there has been "a change in circumstances sufficiently substantial in its effect upon the best interests of the [child] as to justify a modification of the custody arrangement." *Jarvis v. Jarvis*, 2003 ME 53, ¶ 29, 832 A.2d 775, 781 (quotation marks omitted); *see* 19-A M.R.S. § 1657(1).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

¹ We have recaptioned this case to reflect the real parties in interest.

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