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DISTRICT I

March 26, 2026

To:

Hon. Nidhi Kashyap
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

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Juvenile Clerk
Milwaukee County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

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Steven Zaleski
Electronic Notice

Anne M. Abell
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A.L.S.

You are hereby notified that the Court has entered the following opinion and order:

2026AP331-NM	In re the termination of parental rights to C.L., a person under the age of 18: State of Wisconsin v. A.L.S. (L.C. # 2023TP144)
2026AP332-NM	In re the termination of parental rights to C.L. III, a person under the age of 18: State of Wisconsin v. A.L.S. (L.C. # 2023TP145)
2026AP333-NM	In re the termination of parental rights to C.L., a person under the age of 18: State of Wisconsin v. A.L.S. (L.C. # 2023TP146)

Before Geenen, J.¹

Summary disposition orders may not be cited in any court of this state as precedent or authority, except for the limited purposes specified in WIS. STAT. RULE 809.23(3).

¹ This appeal is decided by one judge pursuant to WIS. STAT. § 752.31(2)(e) (2023-24). All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2023-24 version.

Attorney Steven Zaleski, appointed counsel for A.L.S., has filed a no-merit report pursuant to WIS. STAT. RULE 809.107(5m). Counsel provided A.L.S. with a copy of the report, and both counsel and this court advised her of her right to file a response. A.L.S. has not responded. The court concludes that these cases are appropriate for summary disposition. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21. After an independent review of the records, the court concludes that the record does not show arguable merit to any issue that could be raised on appeal.

As to all three children, A.L.S. entered a plea of no contest to the ground of continuing child in need of protection and services (CHIPS). The court conducted the personal colloquy with A.L.S. as required by WIS. STAT. § 48.422(7) and *Kenosha County v. Jodie W.*, 2006 WI 93 ¶¶24-25, 293 Wis. 2d 530, 716 N.W.2d 845. In addition, the court heard testimony in support of the continuing CHIPS ground, as required by § 48.422(3). That testimony established the necessary elements for that ground. For these reasons, the record does not show that there is arguable merit to any argument to withdraw A.L.S.'s plea of no contest.

The circuit court held a contested dispositional hearing and concluded that it was in the best interests of the children that A.L.S.'s parental rights be terminated. The court's decision emphasized the likelihood that the children would be adopted at their current placement and the relatively long duration that the children had already been separated from A.L.S. It also noted the success of the children in their current placement with an adoption resource, and the uncertainty as to whether and when A.L.S. might be able to meet the conditions of return, and concluded that adoption is the best path to permanence.

The court considered the proper standard and factors under WIS. STAT. § 48.426(2) and (3), did not consider improper factors, and reached a reasonable result. An argument that the court erroneously exercised its disposition discretion would lack arguable merit.

Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the orders terminating parental rights are summarily affirmed. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Zaleski is relieved of further representation of A.L.S. in these matters.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this summary disposition order will not be published.

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals