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DISTRICT IV

May 30, 2025

To:

Hon. Jacob B. Frost
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

Jeff Okazaki
Clerk of Circuit Court
Dane County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

Emily Caroline Cunningham
Electronic Notice

Christopher Krimmer
Electronic Notice

Kimberly N. Ripp
Electronic Notice

Kristin Anne Bausch
Electronic Notice

Jane A. Jacobs
Dane County Child Support Agency
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Rm. 365
Madison, WI 53703

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

2023AP2251

In re the marriage of: Kristin Anne Bausch v. Christopher John
Bausch (L.C. #2021FA822)

Before Kloppenburg, P.J., Nashold, and Taylor, JJ.

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).

Kristin Bausch (Kristin) appeals several postjudgment circuit court orders in this divorce case. Based on our review of the briefs and record, we conclude at conference that this case is appropriate for summary disposition. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21 (2023-24).¹ We affirm on the basis that Kristin's brief does not raise any issue that we have appellate jurisdiction to

¹ Because the parties have the same surname, we refer to each party by the party's first name. All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2023-24 version.

address. In addition, we find the appeal frivolous and remand with directions for the circuit court to determine appropriate attorney fees.

The parties were divorced in January 2023. In an order on July 20, 2023, the circuit court found Kristin in contempt of the divorce judgment for failing to refinance the mortgage into her name and failing to meet her financial obligations under the judgment. The order imposed and stayed jail time and set purge conditions. The court issued bench warrants and on October 25, 2023, issued an order regarding purge conditions after Kristin's arrest.

After this appeal was docketed, this court questioned our jurisdiction of the appeal. Our order of May 14, 2024, discussed the various documents listed in Kristin's notice of appeal and identified those that this court has jurisdiction to review. These included the October 25, 2023, order regarding purge conditions. However, we concluded that we lack jurisdiction to review the original finding of contempt in the July 20, 2023 order, or the earlier divorce judgment from January 2023.

Kristin's brief on appeal does not appear to make any argument that is directed to any of the circuit court orders over which this court has jurisdiction. The brief's cursory statement of facts appears to describe only events that occurred before the July 2023 finding of contempt.

More importantly, the arguments in the brief also appear to be directed at only the original contempt finding, or at provisions of the divorce judgment. For example, Kristin asserts that women are not required to pay child support, that the circuit court found her in contempt without making a determination of her ability to pay, that she was held in contempt without a jury trial, and that the circuit court lacked jurisdiction. In short, the brief fails to make any argument about the circuit court orders over which we have jurisdiction. Therefore, we affirm

those orders, and we reach no conclusion about any earlier orders over which we lack jurisdiction.

Respondent Christopher Bausch (Christopher) moves for a finding that this appeal is frivolous under WIS. STAT. RULE 809.25(3)(c)1. on the ground that Kristin should have known that it lacked any reasonable basis in law or equity and could not be supported by a good-faith argument for extension, modification, or reversal of existing law. We conclude that the appeal is frivolous. Kristin did not respond to the motion, and her brief, as discussed above, fails to suggest a reasonable basis, or any basis at all, to reverse the orders that are before us in the appeal.

IT IS ORDERED that the orders of the circuit court are summarily affirmed under WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this appeal is frivolous, and the cause is remanded to the circuit court to determine Christopher's attorney fees.

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

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals