

BOISE, THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025, AT 10:30 A.M.

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Docket No. 52160

STACI L. SOMES, fka STARNES)
)
Plaintiff-Respondent)
)
v.)
)
NATHAN R. STARNES,)
)
Defendant-Appellant)

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District, State of Idaho, Ada County. Hon. Cynthia Yee-Wallace, District Judge.

ELC Legal Services, Chtd.; Ryan B. Clay, Boise, for appellant.

Cosho Humphrey, LLP.; Mackenzie Whatcott, Boise, for respondent.

Nathan R. Starnes and Staci L. Somes (fka Starnes) divorced pursuant to a stipulated judgment and decree, which indicated the parties entered into a separate contract related to spousal support. The spousal support agreement required Starnes to pay Somes \$3,026 per month for a total of thirty-six months with subsequent payments due on the first of each month. The spousal support agreement also specified that payments would cease at the end of any month in which Somes died. After Somes remarried, Starnes stopped making spousal support payments and missed eighteen months of payments, totaling \$54,468. Somes filed a complaint alleging Starnes breached the spousal support agreement when he ceased making payments and sought to recover the unpaid support. Starnes responded with a motion for summary judgment, asserting his obligation ended when Somes remarried. The district court denied Starnes' motion. Starnes filed a motion for reconsideration, which the district court also denied. Following trial, the district court determined that the spousal support agreement was fully integrated and unambiguous. The district court also found that Starnes breached the spousal support agreement and awarded Somes \$54,468 in damages. Starnes appeals.