

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare v. John Doe (2019-16)
Case No. 47130

John Doe (“Father”) appealed the magistrate court’s order terminating his parental rights to his minor children, Jane Doe I (“B.L.S.”) and Jane Doe II (“A.C.S.”), entered on June 11, 2019. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare filed a petition to terminate Father’s parental rights on December 11, 2018. After a four-day trial, the magistrate court found by clear and convincing evidence that termination of Father’s parental rights was proper on the grounds of neglect and that termination of Father’s parental rights was in the best interests of the children. Father appealed, arguing that neither of the magistrate court’s findings was supported by substantial, competent evidence. The Idaho Supreme Court determined that substantial, competent evidence supported both findings. Accordingly, the Idaho Supreme Court affirmed the magistrate court’s final order terminating Father’s parental rights to B.L.S. and A.C.S.