

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Idaho Dep't of Health and Welfare v. Jane Doe (2023-27)

Docket No. 50905

In this case arising out of Bannock County, the Court of Appeals affirmed the magistrate court's judgment terminating the parental rights of Jane Doe (2023-27). The magistrate court terminated Doe's parental rights after finding clear and convincing evidence that she abandoned and neglected her child, that the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare made active efforts under the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) to prevent the breakup of the family, and that termination is in the child's best interests.

On appeal, Doe challenged the sufficiency of the evidence supporting the magistrate court's findings that she abandoned and neglected her child and that termination is in the child's best interests. Doe asserted that the magistrate court failed to consider the efforts she made and failed to consider the effect of her periods of incarceration. Doe also challenged the sufficiency of the evidence supporting the magistrate court's finding that active efforts were made by the Department as required by ICWA. The Court of Appeals held that substantial and competent evidence supported the magistrate court's findings that Doe abandoned and neglected the child, that termination is in the best interests of the child, and that the Department made active efforts.

This summary constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court, but has been prepared by court staff for the convenience of the public.