STATE OF MICHIGAN

COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of SAFARI MARNIQUE OWENS
and RYLICIA UNIQUE MARCH, Minors.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

ROBERT MARCH,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

ALISHA WILSON and BARRY OWENS,

Respondents.

UNPUBLISHED
December 19, 2006

No. 270955
Calhoun Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 04-003036-NA

Before: Murphy, P.J., and Smolenski and Kelly, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent Robert March, who is the putative father of Rylicia March, appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating his parental rights to Rylicia under MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(ii), (g), and (j). We affirm.

Respondent does not dispute the trial court's determination that the statutory grounds for termination were established by clear and convincing evidence. The crux of his argument is that petitioner was negligent in failing to timely ascertain his whereabouts after the neglect petition was filed. Further, he asserts that once petitioner learned that he was imprisoned in Missouri, it should have contacted him to advise him of the pendency of the proceedings and to determine what services were available to him in prison, or offer him services. Respondent fails to cite any authority in support of these contentions and, therefore, the issue may be deemed abandoned. *Flint City Council v State of Michigan*, 253 Mich App 378, 393 n 2; 655 NW2d 604 (2002).

We note that respondent does not raise any defects in the manner of service of the original petition, see MCR 3.920(B)(2)(b) and (C); MCR 3.921(C), and it is undisputed that he received notice of and appeared for the hearing on the supplemental petition. Respondent does not indicate what services could have been offered while he was in prison in another state. Even

if some services could have been offered, respondent has never met Rylicia and would not be able to meet her for at least another year, and even then would have to develop a relationship with her before reunification could even be considered. Thus, regardless of respondent's prospects as a parent, he was not capable of assuming custody of the child within a reasonable time given her age. The trial court's order is affirmed.

Affirmed.

/s/ William B. Murphy
/s/ Michael R. Smolenski
/s/ Kirsten Frank Kelly