

**STATE OF MICHIGAN**  
**COURT OF APPEALS**

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In the Matter of DEWAYNE LEE SMITH, CIARA  
JAVON SMITH, TIJUAN ISAAC SMITH and  
DEMAIEL UTON SMITH, Minors.

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FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

DOREEN SMITH,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

ALAN JOHNSON and CHARLES ALPHONSO  
HENRY, SR.,

Respondents.

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Before: Neff, P.J., and White and D. A. Teeple\*, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent mother appeals as of right from a juvenile court order terminating her parental rights to her children under MCL 712A.19b(3); MSA 27.3178(598.19b)(3). We affirm.

The juvenile court did not abuse its discretion when it denied respondent mother's request to adjourn the proceedings as long as she was the target of a criminal investigation into whether she sexually abused one of her sons, *In re Jackson*, 199 Mich App 22, 28; 501 NW2d 182 (1993), where the ruling would have delayed the proceedings four to six weeks or longer, depending on whether

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\* Circuit judge, sitting on the Court of Appeals by assignment.

criminal charges were brought against respondent mother, and where the ruling did not

deprive her of an opportunity to testify and refute a substantial portion of the evidence of abuse and neglect presented against by petitioner. *Phillips v Deihm*, 213 Mich App 389, 399-400; 541 NW2d 566 (1995); *In re Strickland*, 148 Mich App 659, 663-664; 384 NW2d 833 (1986); *People v Ferency*, 133 Mich App 526, 533-534; 351 NW2d 225 (1984).

Affirmed.

/s/ Janet T. Neff

/s/ Helene N. White

/s/ Donald A. Teeple