

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COURT OF APPEALS

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In the Matter of GRACE ELIZSE MADISON  
RAWLS, Minor.

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

DENISE LONGS,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

CHARLES RAWLS,

Respondent.

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UNPUBLISHED  
February 20, 2007

No. 271849  
St. Joseph Circuit Court  
Family Division  
LC No. 05-000852-NA

Before: Meter, P.J., and O'Connell and Davis, JJ.

MEMORANDUM.

Respondent Denise Longs appeals as of right from a circuit court order terminating her parental rights to the minor child pursuant to MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that § 19b(3)(g) was established by clear and convincing evidence. *In re IEM*, 233 Mich App 438, 450; 592 NW2d 751 (1999) (“[a] court may order termination of a parent’s rights when clear and convincing evidence establishes that at least one statutory ground for termination exists”). Respondent was unable to provide proper care or custody for the child due to her abuse of cocaine. Respondent failed to treat her substance abuse problem and continued to use the drug during the pendency of the case. As a result, she was no closer to reunification than she had been nine months earlier when the child entered foster care. Therefore, it was clear that respondent would not be able to provide proper care and custody within a reasonable time considering the age of the child. Further, the evidence did not clearly show that termination of respondent’s parental rights was not in the child’s best interests. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo*, 462 Mich 341, 354, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). The trial court did not err in terminating respondent’s parental rights to the child.

Affirmed.

/s/ Patrick M. Meter  
/s/ Peter D. O'Connell  
/s/ Alton T. Davis