

ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS

DIVISION II
No. CV-13-658

BILAL ABDUL-KHALIQ

APPELLANT

V.

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES and
MINOR CHILD

APPELLEES

Opinion Delivered December 4, 2013

APPEAL FROM THE SEBASTIAN
COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT,
FORT SMITH DISTRICT
[NO. JV-2004-356]

HONORABLE MARK HEWETT,
JUDGE

AFFIRMED; MOTION TO
WITHDRAW GRANTED

RHONDA K. WOOD, Judge

This is a no-merit appeal from an order terminating Bilal Abdul-Khaliq's parental rights to his child, MAK. Abdul-Khaliq's appellate counsel has filed a brief and motion to withdraw under *Linker-Flores v. Arkansas Department of Human Services*, 359 Ark. 131, 194 S.W.3d 739 (2004), and Ark. Sup. Ct. R. 6-9(i) (2013). Abdul-Khaliq was given an opportunity to file pro se points but has declined to do so. We affirm and grant counsel's motion because there is no meritorious basis for an appeal.

MAK came into the Department of Human Services's custody in January 2011. She had been living with her mother, who abandoned her after fleeing from the police. Abdul-Khaliq, MAK's father, only appeared at the probable-cause and adjudication hearings. After that, he never went to court or contacted DHS. The

juvenile court terminated his parental rights in April 2013 on the grounds of abandonment.

After examining the record we agree that an appeal would be meritless. Counsel has complied with our requirements for no-merit termination cases: the only adverse ruling was the termination order itself, and counsel has adequately explained why there is no arguable basis to appeal that decision. We therefore affirm by memorandum opinion, *In re Memorandum Opinions*, 16 Ark. App. 301, 700 S.W.2d 63 (1985), and grant the motion to withdraw.

Affirmed; motion to withdraw granted.

GLOVER and HIXSON, JJ., agree.

Deborah R. Sallings, Arkansas Public Defender Commission, for appellant.

No response.