



**In The  
Court of Appeals  
Seventh District of Texas at Amarillo**

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No. 07-22-00171-CV

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IN THE INTEREST OF L.H., A CHILD

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On Appeal from the 223rd District Court  
Gray County, Texas  
Trial Court No. 39,999, Honorable Phil N. Vanderpool, Presiding

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July 21, 2022

**MEMORANDUM OPINION**

Before QUINN, C.J., and PARKER and DOSS, JJ.,

Appellant and intervenor below, M.M., appearing pro se, attempts to appeal from the trial court's *Order of Termination*. The trial court signed the order on March 18, 2022. A notice of appeal was, therefore, due within twenty days after the order was signed, by April 7, 2022. TEX. R. APP. P. 26.1(b), 28.4(a).<sup>1</sup> Appellant filed a notice of appeal on June 16, 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> In an accelerated appeal, absent a Rule 26.3 motion, which is not applicable here, "the deadline for filing a notice of appeal is strictly set at twenty days after the judgment is signed, with no exceptions," and, consequently, filing a post-judgment motion will not operate to extend that deadline. See *In re K.A.F.*, 160 S.W.3d 923, 927 (Tex. 2005).

A timely notice of appeal is essential to invoking this Court's jurisdiction. See TEX. R. APP. P. 25.1(b), 26.1; *Verburgt v. Dornier*, 959 S.W.2d 615, 616–17 (Tex. 1997). By letter of June 17, 2022, we notified M.M. that her notice of appeal appeared untimely and directed her to file a response on or before June 27, 2022, showing grounds for continuing the appeal or the appeal would be dismissed for want of jurisdiction. To date, M.M. has not filed a response.

Accordingly, we dismiss the purported appeal for want of jurisdiction. TEX. R. APP. P. 42.3(a).

Per Curiam