

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
FIFTH DISTRICT

JANUARY TERM 2010

D.M., MOTHER OF K.P., A CHILD,

Appellant,

v.

Case No. 5D09-3608

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES,

Appellee.

/

Opinion filed April 8, 2010

Appeal from the Circuit Court
for Orange County,
Gail Adams, Judge.

Nickole E. Frederick, Orlando, for Appellant.

Karla Perkins, of DCF, Miami, for Appellee.

PER CURIAM.

D.M. ["Mother"] appeals a final order terminating her parental rights to K.P. Mother asserts that the trial court failed to comply with section 39.803, Florida Statutes (2009), and the Department of Children and Families ["DCF"] failed to offer competent proof to support the trial court's findings. DCF offered testimony of a case worker that the mother never identified the father and that DCF had made a request to determine whether anyone had registered with the Putative Father Registry, but no response or certificate had yet been received. This may have been considered a formality under the circumstances of the case and it may turn out to be a formality, but it is a formality that must be observed. Otherwise, there is a risk of unnecessary judicial labor and delay in

permanent placement of the child. Cf. *In the Interest of E.D.*, 884 So. 2d 291 (Fla. 2d DCA 2004).

REVERSED and REMANDED.

GRIFFIN, PALMER and JACOBUS, JJ., concur.