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COUNSEL FOR APPELLEE

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Nos. DA 25-0146 and DA 25-0180

IN THE MATTER OF:

C.M.B.,

A Youth in Need of Care.

UNOPPOSED MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

The Appellee State of Montana, on behalf of the Department of Public Health and Human Services, Child and Family Services Division respectfully requests that this Court consolidate Case Nos. DA 25-0146, *In re C.M.B.* (Mother's appeal), and DA 25-0180, *In re C.M.B.* (Father's appeal), into Case No. DA 25-0146.

As grounds therefor, the State submits as follows:

The reason for this motion is judicial economy and efficiency. Each of C.M.B.'s natural parents (Mother and Father) appealed from the order terminating their parental rights issued on January 28, 2025, in Fourth Judicial District Court Cause No. DN-23-051.

Mother timely appealed and this Court assigned Case No. DA 25-0146. The record for Mother's appeal was completed in late March 2025, and Kelli Sather has been appointed to represent Mother. Mother's Opening Brief is currently due May 30, 2025.

Father petitioned for leave to file an out of time appeal, which this Court granted, and Case No. DA 25-0180 was assigned to his case. The record for Father's appeal was complete as of May 6, 2025, and the Appellate Defender's Office (ADO) is in the process of assigning appellate counsel for Father.

Since the records for both parents' appeals come from Fourth Judicial District Court Cause No. DN-23-051, *In re C.M.B.*, consolidation into one case will promote judicial economy and efficiency.

Counsel for Appellant Mother, Kellie Sather, was contacted regarding this motion and she has no objection. Tammy Hinderman, ADO Division Administrator, has also been contacted and does not oppose this motion.

Respectfully submitted this 6th day of May, 2025.

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By: /s/ Katie F. Schulz
KATIE F. SCHULZ
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kathryn Fey Schulz, hereby certify that I have served true and accurate copies of the foregoing Motion - Unopposed to the following on 05-06-2025:

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Electronically signed by Wendi Waterman on behalf of Kathryn Fey Schulz
Dated: 05-06-2025