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DISTRICT IV

April 3, 2018

To:

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You are hereby notified that the Court has entered the following opinion and order:

2017AP1209

Dwight A. Williams v. Wisconsin Equal Rights Division, The Meridian Group, Inc., Rodney Tapp, Keshia Peters, Megan Dietrich and Nick Larson (L.C. # 2016CV2417)

Before Lundsten, P.J., Sherman and Blanchard, JJ.

Summary disposition orders may not be cited in any court of this state as precedent or authority, except for the limited purposes specified in WIS. STAT. RULE 809.23(3).

Dwight Williams appeals a circuit court order dismissing his amended complaint. Based upon our review of the briefs and the record, we conclude at conference that this case is

appropriate for summary disposition. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21 (2015-16).¹ We summarily affirm.

The appellant's brief contains numerous complaints about the circuit court proceedings in this matter. The brief fails, however, to develop coherent arguments that apply relevant legal authority to the facts of record, and instead relies largely on conclusory assertions. "A party must do more than simply toss a bunch of concepts into the air with the hope that either the [circuit] court or the opposing party will arrange them into viable and fact-supported legal theories." *State v. Jackson*, 229 Wis. 2d 328, 337, 600 N.W.2d 39 (Ct. App. 1999). Consequently, this court need not consider arguments that either are unsupported by adequate factual and legal citations or are otherwise undeveloped. *See Dieck v. Unified Sch. Dist. Of Antigo*, 157 Wis. 2d 134, 148 n.9, 458 N.W.2d 565 (Ct. App. 1990) (unsupported factual assertions); *State v. Pettit*, 171 Wis. 2d 627, 646-47, 492 N.W.2d 633 (Ct. App. 1992) (undeveloped legal arguments). While we make some allowances for the failings of parties who, as here, are not represented by counsel, "[w]e cannot serve as both advocate and judge," *Pettit*, 171 Wis. 2d at 647, and will not scour the record to develop arguments for an appellant, *Jackson*, 229 Wis. 2d at 337.

Here, the appellant's brief fails to state coherent arguments supported by applicable legal authority. The brief also lacks citations to the relevant portions of the record. Therefore, we affirm the circuit court on the basis that Williams has failed to develop his arguments legally or to support them factually.

¹ All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2015-16 version unless otherwise noted.

IT IS ORDERED that the order is summarily affirmed under Wis. STAT. RULE 809.21(1).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this summary disposition order will not be published.

Sheila T. Reiff
Clerk of Court of Appeals