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DISTRICT IV

August 10, 2023

To:

Hon. Chris Taylor
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

Petitioner
Electronic Notice

Carlo Esqueda
Clerk of Circuit Court
Dane County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

Alexei Tarasov
Electronic Notice

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

2022AP1895

Petitioner v. Alexei Tarasov (L.C. # 2022CV2266)

Before Kloppenburg, P.J., Blanchard, and Graham, 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).

Alexei Tarasov, pro se, appeals a circuit court order granting a four-year domestic abuse injunction to the petitioner, as modified by a stipulation for child placement exchanges. After reviewing the briefs and record, we conclude at conference that this case is appropriate for summary disposition. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21 (2021-22).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 arguments that apply relevant legal authority to

¹ All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2021-22 version.

the facts of record, and instead relies largely upon conclusory assertions. “A party must do more than simply toss a bunch of concepts into the air with the hope that either the trial 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 are unsupported by adequate factual and legal citations or are otherwise undeveloped. See *Grothe v. Valley Coatings, Inc.*, 2000 WI App 240, ¶6, 239 Wis. 2d 406, 620 N.W.2d 463, *abrogated on other grounds by Wiley v. M.M.N. Laufer Fam. Ltd. P’ship*, 2011 WI App 158, 338 Wis. 2d 178, 807 N.W.2d 236 (lack of record citations); *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 viable, fact-supported legal theories on the appellant’s behalf, *Jackson*, 229 Wis. 2d at 337.

Here, Tarasov has not developed his arguments. His briefing identifies some evidentiary material found in the circuit court record, but it does not explain how the evidence relates to the legal standards for granting a domestic abuse injunction, or how it would overcome the deferential standards we apply to a circuit court’s determinations of fact. From the inadequate briefing, we do not detect a basis to determine that any ruling by the circuit court was erroneous.

Therefore,

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.

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals