

NOVA SCOTIA COURT OF APPEAL

Citation: *C.F. v. Nova Scotia (Community Services)*, 2017 NSCA 56

Date: 20170615

Docket: CA 458841

Registry: Halifax

Between:

C.F. and B.S.

Appellant

v.

Minister of Community Services

Respondent

<p>Restriction on Publication: 94(1) of the Children and Family Services Act, S.N.S. 1990, c. 5</p>
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Judge: The Honourable Justice David P.S. Farrar

Appeal Heard: May 30, 2017, in Halifax, Nova Scotia

Subject: **Children and Family Services Act, S.N.S. 1990, c. 5.
Ineffective Assistance of Counsel.**

Summary: By decision dated November 17, 2016, Justice Deborah Gass ordered the appellants' three children be placed in the permanent care of the Minister of Community Services. The appellants appeal that finding arguing they had ineffective assistance of counsel at trial in the proceeding.

Issues: Was counsel's representation of the appellants ineffective?

Result: Appeal dismissed without costs to any party.
The appellants failed to show that counsel's conduct was ineffective. To the contrary, they were provided with a robust defence to the Minister's request to have the children placed

in permanent care. A review of the record reveals that counsel had a theory of the case, appropriately examined and cross-examined witnesses with a view to proving that theory and made forceful arguments in support of their clients' position.

This information sheet does not form part of the court's judgment. Quotes must be from the judgment, not this cover sheet. The full court judgment consists of 18 pages.