

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

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO  
FILE MOTION FOR REHEARING AND  
DISPOSITION THEREOF IF FILED

ROBERT ANDREAS CHRISTOU,

Appellant,

v.

Case No. 5D15-2005

NICOLETTE MARIE BALDREE,

Appellee.

\_\_\_\_\_ /

Opinion filed March 4, 2016

Appeal from the Circuit Court  
for Brevard County,  
Morgan Laur Reinman, Judge.

Dale F. Webner, of Miller & Webner, P.A.,  
Weston, for Appellant.

Patricia M. Lee, of Urban Thier &  
Federer, P.A., Orlando, for Appellee.

PER CURIAM.

The trial court erred in awarding attorney's fees<sup>1</sup> against Robert Christou, the Respondent in the paternity action below. A court in a domestic relations proceeding that is without personal jurisdiction over the respondent may not order the respondent to pay

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<sup>1</sup> The fees were awarded pursuant to section 742.045, Florida Statutes (2014), which authorizes a court to award attorney's fees in a paternity action after consideration of the party's "financial resources."

attorney's fees. See *Beroes v. Fla. Dep't of Revenue*, 958 So. 2d 489, 492 (Fla. 3d DCA 2007); *Steffens v. Steffens*, 593 So. 2d 1156, 1158 (Fla. 2d DCA 1992); *Montano v. Montano*, 520 So. 2d 52, 53 (Fla. 3d DCA 1988).

REVERSED AND REMANDED.

ORFINGER, EVANDER and WALLIS, JJ., concur.