**OPINION SUMMARY**

**MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT**

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| IN THE ESTATE OF: A.T. | ) | No. ED94089 |
| | ) | |
| | ) | Appeal from the Circuit Court |
| | ) | of the City of St. Louis |
| | ) | Filed: September 14, 2010 |

The maternal grandmother, Regina Hayes, appeals the order of the probate division of the Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis appointing the paternal grandmother, Sharond Thorpe, as statutory guardian for the minor child, A.T., and designating the paternal grandmother as representative payee of the minor's social-security benefits.

AFFIRMED AS MODIFIED.

DIVISION THREE HOLDS: Based on the record presented, we affirm the appointment of the paternal grandmother as statutory guardian. However, because a state court has no authority to designate a representative payee of a minor's social-security benefits, we modify the trial court's order to eliminate that provision.

Opinion by: Lawrence E. Mooney, J., Sherri B. Sullivan, P.J., and Clifford H. Ahrens, J., concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Regina Hayes, Pro Se

Attorney for Respondent: John J. Ammann, Marie Amendola Kenyon

**THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.**