

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

State v. Clark

Clark · No. I.D. No. 2507004298 · Decided January 23, 2026

SUMMARY

The Delaware Superior Court grants Marhi Clark’s motion to transfer criminal charges to Family Court under 10 Del. C. § 1011. The court concludes that the State failed to establish a prima facie case for First-Degree Robbery, the charge that provided Superior Court jurisdiction over the juvenile, because the evidence did not show that Clark used or threatened force to retain the firearm. The court therefore transfers the case to Family Court without reaching the statutory reverse-amenable factors.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Superior Court of the State of Delaware
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Ferris W. Wharton
JURISDICTION	Delaware Superior Court
DECIDED	January 23, 2026
DOCKET	I.D. No. 2507004298
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendant moved under 10 Del. C. § 1011 to transfer the indicted charges from Superior Court to Family Court through a reverse amenability hearing.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court assessed whether the State established a prima facie case by determining whether a fair likelihood or real probability existed that a reasonable jury could convict the juvenile based on the totality of the hearing evidence, assuming the evidence was un rebutted at trial.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published Superior Court of Delaware opinion/order according to the provided metadata.
PARTIES	State of Delaware v. Marhi Clark

TOPICS

- criminal procedure
- family law procedure
- evidence

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the State established a prima facie case for Robbery First Degree, the charge that supplied the Superior Court's original jurisdiction over Clark.
2. Whether the charges should be transferred from Superior Court to Family Court under Delaware's reverse amenability procedure.

HOLDINGS

1. The State failed to establish a prima facie case for Robbery First Degree because the evidence did not show that Clark used or threatened the immediate use of force to take or retain the firearm.
2. Because the State did not establish a prima facie case for the only charged offense enumerated as vesting the Superior Court with original jurisdiction, the Superior Court lacked original jurisdiction over the case.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Before addressing § 1011(b)’s factors, “this Court must preliminarily determine whether the State has made out a prima facie case against the juvenile[.]”” (at 3)

“The State has not met its burden of making out a prima facie case against Clark on the robbery charge.” (at 7)

“Because there is no charge against Clark enumerated in 10 Del. C. § 1010(a)(1) for which the State can make out a prima facie case, this Court lacks original jurisdiction.” (at 7)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Clark, who was seventeen when the alleged offenses occurred, was charged in connection with a July 5, 2025 shooting and theft of the victim's firearm. Surveillance footage showed a group approaching the victim and later fleeing, but the footage did not permit identification. The victim could not identify the shooter, no firearm or forensic evidence connected Clark to the shooting, and Clark admitted only that he picked up the victim's firearm after the shooting and fled. The State could not offer evidence that Clark took the firearm from the victim by force or threatened force to retain it.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Clark was indicted in Superior Court for Robbery First Degree, Conspiracy Second Degree, and Possession of a Firearm by a Person Prohibited. After a reverse amenability hearing on January 22, 2026, the Superior Court determined that the State had not established a prima facie case for the robbery charge, the only charge providing original Superior Court jurisdiction, and transferred the case to Family Court.

DISPOSITION

other

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The case was transferred to Family Court; no further remand instructions were stated.

CASES CITED

- State v. Anderson, 385 A.2d 738 (Del. Super. Ct. 1978)
- State v. Anderson, 697 A.2d 379 (Del. 1997)
- State v. Harper, 2014 WL 1303012, at *5 (Del. Super. Ct. Mar. 31, 2014)
- Marine v. State, 624 A.2d 1181, 1185 (Del. 1993)