

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

Francis v. Meyer

Francis · No. No. 468, 2025 · Decided May 5, 2026

SUMMARY

The Delaware Supreme Court dismissed Madeline Francis’s appeal from a Family Court matter because she failed to file an opening brief and did not respond to a show-cause notice. The dismissal was deemed unopposed and entered under Delaware Supreme Court Rules 3(b)(2) and 29(b).

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of the State of Delaware
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Gary F. Traynor
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of the State of Delaware
DECIDED	May 5, 2026
DOCKET	No. 468, 2025
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appellant's appeal from the Family Court of the State of Delaware was dismissed for failure to file an opening brief and failure to respond to a show-cause notice.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	precedential
PARTIES	Madeline Francis v. Maxwell Meyer

TOPICS

- appellate procedure
- family law procedure
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- appellate procedure
- family law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the appeal should be dismissed because the appellant failed to file an opening brief and failed to respond to the Court's show-cause notice.

HOLDINGS

1. An appeal may be dismissed when the appellant fails to file the required opening brief and fails to respond to a properly issued show-cause notice.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

This appeal was subject to a deadline for filing the appellant's opening brief. The appellant did not file the brief, did not provide an updated address, and did not respond to the Court's show-cause notice despite notice being sent by certified and first-class mail.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The appellant's opening brief was due March 12, 2026, but was not filed. After a brief-delinquency notice and two show-cause notices, including one sent by certified mail and another by first-class mail, the appellant neither updated her address nor responded by the April 27 deadline. The Delaware Supreme Court dismissed the appeal as unopposed under Supreme Court Rules 3(b)(2) and 29(b).

DISPOSITION

dismissed