

SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Commonwealth v. Lane

No. 385 EAL 2025, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (March 18, 2026)

SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania granted Eric Lane's petition for allowance of appeal, limited to whether the evidence supported the suppression court's conclusion that the location of the stop was a high-crime area. The court vacated the Superior Court's order and remanded for reconsideration in light of Commonwealth v. Lewis, 343 A.3d 1016 (Pa. 2025).

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
DECIDED	March 18, 2026
DOCKET	385 EAL 2025
DISPOSITION	reversed_and_remanded
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petition for allowance of appeal from the Superior Court's unpublished memorandum and order affirming the judgment of sentence.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published
PARTIES	Eric Lane v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

TOPICS

appellate procedure

suppression of evidence

criminal procedure

evidence

PRACTICE AREAS

criminal procedure

appellate procedure

evidence

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the evidence was sufficient to support the suppression court's conclusion that the location where Lane was stopped was a high-crime area.

HOLDINGS

1. The Supreme Court vacated the Superior Court's order and remanded for reconsideration of the issue in light of *Commonwealth v. Lewis*.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“the Petition for Allowance of Appeal is GRANTED, limited to the issue of whether the evidence was sufficient to support the suppression court’s conclusion that the location where petitioner was stopped was a high-crime area.”

“The order of the Superior Court is VACATED, and the matter is REMANDED to the Superior Court for reconsideration in light of Commonwealth v. Lewis, 343 A.3d 1016 (Pa. 2025).”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The case concerns a suppression court's conclusion that the location where Eric Lane was stopped was a high-crime area. The Supreme Court limited review to whether the evidence was sufficient to support that conclusion.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Philadelphia County Court of Common Pleas entered judgment of sentence on July 12, 2024. The Superior Court affirmed that judgment on August 27, 2025. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania granted allowance of appeal, limited to whether the evidence supported the suppression court's conclusion that the location of the stop was a high-crime area, vacated the Superior Court's order, and remanded for reconsideration in light of *Commonwealth v. Lewis*.

DISPOSITION

reversed_and_remanded

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The Superior Court must reconsider the limited high-crime-area issue in light of *Commonwealth v. Lewis*, 343 A.3d 1016 (Pa. 2025).

CASES CITED

- *Commonwealth v. Lewis*, 343 A.3d 1016 (Pa. 2025)