

FIRST DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF FLORIDA

Sheffield v. State of Florida

Sheffield · No. 1D2024-1587 · Decided November 26, 2025

SUMMARY

The First District Court of Appeal of Florida affirmed Kaleb Sheffield’s judgment, including his prison releasee reoffender sentence. The court held that any error arising from the trial court, rather than the jury, determining the statutory PRR qualifications was harmless.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	First District Court of Appeal of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Lewis, J.; Kelsey, J.; Treadwell, J.
JURISDICTION	First District Court of Appeal of Florida
DECIDED	November 26, 2025
DOCKET	1D2024-1587
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Kaleb Sheffield appealed from a judgment of the Circuit Court for Leon County, challenging two issues, including the imposition of a prison releasee reoffender sentence.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Harmless-error review
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published opinion; precedential status is identified as published, but the opinion is not final until disposition of any timely and authorized motion under Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure 9.330 or 9.331.
PARTIES	Kaleb Sheffield v. State of Florida

TOPICS

- sentencing
- criminal procedure
- harmless error
- appellate procedure
- statutory interpretation

PRACTICE AREAS

- criminal procedure
- criminal sentencing
- appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the trial court erred by finding, rather than the jury finding, that Sheffield met the statutory qualifications for a prison releasee reoffender sentence.
2. Whether the first issue raised by Sheffield warranted reversal.

HOLDINGS

1. Any error resulting from the trial court, rather than the jury, finding that Sheffield met the statutory PRR qualifications was harmless and did not require reversal.
2. The court affirmed as to the first issue without further discussion.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“we affirm because any error was harmless.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Sheffield challenged his prison releasee reoffender (PRR) sentence on the ground that the trial court, rather than the jury, found that he met the statutory qualifications for that sentence. He also raised a separate issue, which the appellate court affirmed without discussion. The appellate court concluded that any error concerning the factfinding underlying the PRR sentence was harmless.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The appeal arose from the Circuit Court for Leon County, with Tiffany M. Baker-Carper presiding. The First District Court of Appeal affirmed the resolution of both appellate issues, rejecting the challenge to the prison releasee reoffender sentence because any error in the trial court's determination of the statutory qualifications was harmless.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Hicks v. State, 50 Fla. L. Weekly D2238a (Fla. 1st DCA Oct. 15, 2025)
- Erlinger v. United States, 602 U.S. 821 (2024)
- Alonso v. State, 415 So. 3d 826, 827 (Fla. 2d DCA 2025)
- Ashford v. State, 407 So. 3d 537, 537 (Fla. 5th DCA 2025)

OPINION

Sheffield v. State of Florida

PER CURIAM.

FIRST DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

STATE OF FLORIDA

KALEB SHEFFIELD,

Appellant, v.

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Appellee. _____ On appeal from the Circuit Court for Leon County.

Tiffany M. Baker-Carper, Judge. November 26, 2025 PER CURIAM. Appellant, Kaleb Sheffield, raises two issues on appeal. We affirm as to the first issue without further discussion. As to the second issue in which Appellant challenges his prison releasee reoffender (“PRR”) sentence because the trial court, not the jury, found that he met the statutory qualifications, we affirm because any error was harmless. See Hicks v. State, 50 Fla. L. Weekly D2238a (Fla. 1st DCA Oct. 15, 2025) (affirming the appellant’s PRR sentence without deciding the impact, if any, of Erlinger v. United States, 602 U.S. 821 (2024), because any error was harmless); Alonso v. State, 415 So. 3d 826, 827 (Fla. 2d DCA 2025) (same); Ashford v. State, 407 So. 3d 537, 537 (Fla. 5th DCA 2025) (same). AFFIRMED. LEWIS, KELSEY, and TREADWELL, JJ., concur.

_____ Not final until disposition of any timely and authorized motion under Fla. R. App. P. 9.330 or 9.331. _____ Ryan Edward

McFarland of Kent & McFarland, Jacksonville, for Appellant. James Uthmeier, Attorney General, and Christina Piotrowski, Assistant Attorney General, Tallahassee, for Appellee. 2