

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

Peoples v. Wallace

No. 16, 2026 · No. No. 16, 2026 · Decided June 24, 2026

SUMMARY

The Delaware Supreme Court dismissed Tristan Peoples's appeal from a Family Court matter because he failed to file an opening brief and did not respond to a notice to show cause. 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
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of the State of Delaware
DECIDED	June 24, 2026
DOCKET	No. 16, 2026
DISPOSITION	dismissed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from the Family Court of the State of Delaware; dismissed for failure to file an opening brief and respond to an order to show cause.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published
PARTIES	Tristan Peoples v. Lauren Wallace

TOPICS

- appellate procedure
- family law procedure
- family law

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 resulting notice to show cause.

HOLDINGS

- An appeal may be dismissed when the appellant fails to file the required opening brief and does not respond to a notice to show cause regarding that failure.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Dismissal of this appeal is therefore deemed to be unopposed.” (at 2)

“IT IS ORDERED that this appeal is DISMISSED under Supreme Court Rules 3(b)(2) and 29(b).” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The appellant did not file an opening brief by the May 18 deadline. After receiving a certified-mail notice to show cause on June 2, he neither responded by June 12 nor filed the required opening brief.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Peoples appealed from the Delaware Family Court in File No. CN20-04491 and Petition No. 25-07761. After Peoples failed to file an opening brief by the court-ordered deadline, the Supreme Court issued a notice to show cause; Peoples received the notice but neither responded nor filed an opening brief. The Supreme Court dismissed the appeal as unopposed under Supreme Court Rules 3(b)(2) and 29(b).

DISPOSITION

dismissed

OPINION

Peoples v. Wallace

PER CURIAM.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

TRISTAN PEOPLES,¹ §

§ No. 16, 2026 Petitioner Below, § Appellant, § Court Below–Family Court § of the State of Delaware v. § § File No. CN20-04491 LAUREN WALLACE, § Petition No. 25-07761 § Respondent Below, § Appellee. § Submitted: June 15, 2026 Decided: June 24, 2026

ORDER

On May 20, 2026, the Chief Deputy Clerk sent a notice of brief delinquency to the appellant, Tristan Peoples, because he had not filed an opening brief by the May 18 deadline set by the Court. On May 28, the Chief Deputy Clerk issued a notice, sent by certified mail, to Peoples directing him to show cause why this appeal should not be dismissed for his failure to file an opening brief. Peoples received the notice on June 2. A timely response to the notice was due on or before June 12. To date, Peoples has neither responded to the notice to show cause nor filed an opening brief. Dismissal of this appeal is therefore deemed to be unopposed. 1 The Court previously assigned pseudonyms to the parties under Supreme Court Rule 7(d). NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that this appeal is DISMISSED under Supreme Court Rules 3(b)(2) and 29(b). BY THE COURT: /s/ N. Christopher Griffiths Justice 2

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