

FLORIDA THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

Alejandro Quintas Vazquez v. Ailyn M. Rebaza Smith

Quintas Vazquez · No. 3D25-0460 · Decided December 31, 2025

SUMMARY

The Third District Court of Appeal of Florida affirmed the trial court's decision in an appeal involving Alejandro Quintas Vazquez and Ailyn M. Rebaza Smith. The court held that the appeal could not be properly reviewed because the appellant failed to provide an adequate record of the trial proceedings.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Florida Third District Court of Appeal
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Fernandez; Gordo; Bokor
JURISDICTION	Florida Third District Court of Appeal
DECIDED	December 31, 2025
DOCKET	3D25-0460
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from a judgment of the Circuit Court for Miami-Dade County in a family-law proceeding.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	An appellate court cannot properly review factual issues or determine whether a trial court misconceived the law without an adequate record of the trial proceedings. Findings of fact and conclusions of law by a general magistrate reach the trial court clothed with a presumption of correctness and may be rejected only if clearly erroneous or based on a misconceived legal effect of the evidence.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published
PARTIES	Alejandro Quintas Vazquez v. Ailyn M. Rebaza Smith

TOPICS

- family law procedure
- appellate procedure
- standard of review
- family law

PRACTICE AREAS

- family law
- appellate procedure
- civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the appellate court could review the trial court's factual and legal determinations without an adequate record of the proceedings.

HOLDINGS

1. When an appellant fails to provide an adequate record of the trial proceedings, the appellate court cannot properly resolve the underlying factual issues or determine whether the trial court's judgment lacks evidentiary support or rests on a misconceived legal theory; the judgment is therefore affirmed.
2. A general magistrate's findings of fact and conclusions of law come to the trial court clothed with a presumption of correctness, and the trial court may reject them only if they are clearly erroneous or the general magistrate misconceived the legal effect of the evidence.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Without a record of the trial proceedings, the appellate court can not properly resolve the underlying factual issues so as to conclude that the trial court’s judgment is not supported by the evidence or by an alternative theory. Without knowing the factual context, neither can an appellate court reasonably conclude that the trial judge so misconceived the law as to require reversal.” (2)

“[A] [general magistrate]’s findings of fact and conclusions of law come to the trial court clothed with a presumption of correctness, and the trial court may only reject these findings and conclusions if they are clearly erroneous or if the [general magistrate] has misconceived the legal effect of the evidence presented.” (2)

“Unfortunately, we are unable to properly review the factual or legal basis for the trial court’s decision because the Father has not furnished this court with an adequate record.” (2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion provides no substantive factual account of the underlying family-law dispute. The appellant did not furnish an adequate record of the trial proceedings, preventing the appellate court from reviewing the factual or legal basis for the trial court's decision.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Alejandro Quintas Vazquez appealed from a decision of the Circuit Court for Miami-Dade County. The Third District Court of Appeal affirmed because the appellate record was inadequate to permit review of the factual or legal basis for the trial court's decision.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Applegate v. Barnett Bank of Tallahassee, 377 So. 2d 1150, 1152 (Fla. 1979)

- Bank of N.Y. Mellon v. Bontoux, 347 So. 3d 105, 108 (Fla. 3d DCA 2022)
- De Clements v. De Clements, 662 So. 2d 1276, 1282 (Fla. 3d DCA 1995)
- Garnett v. Duvalsaint, 400 So. 3d 682, 683-84 (Fla. 3d DCA 2024)

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