

TEXAS COURT OF APPEALS, FOURTH DISTRICT, SAN ANTONIO

Juan Carlos Alegria v. the State of Texas

No. 04-24-00596-CR (Tex. App.—San Antonio Jan. 21, 2026) (mem. op.) · No. 04-24-00596-CR · Decided January 21, 2026

SUMMARY

The Fourth Court of Appeals of Texas affirmed Juan Carlos Alegria’s conviction for indecency with a child by contact. The court held that the evidence, including the complainant’s testimony, was legally sufficient to support the conviction despite conflicting testimony regarding Alegria’s opportunity to commit the offense.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Texas Court of Appeals, Fourth District, San Antonio
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Adrian A. Spears II; Rebeca C. Martinez, Chief Justice; Adrian A. Spears II, Justice; H. Todd McCray, Justice
JURISDICTION	Fourth Court of Appeals, San Antonio, Texas
DECIDED	January 21, 2026
DOCKET	04-24-00596-CR
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Alegria appealed his jury conviction for indecency with a child by contact, arguing that the evidence was legally insufficient to support the conviction.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court viewed all the evidence in the light most favorable to the verdict and determined whether any rational trier of fact could have found the essential elements of the offense beyond a reasonable doubt. The court deferred to the jury's credibility determinations and resolution of conflicting inferences, while requiring that reasonable inferences be supported by the evidence rather than speculation.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential memorandum opinion; marked DO NOT PUBLISH.
PARTIES	Juan Carlos Alegria v. The State of Texas

TOPICS

- standard of review
- appellate procedure
- criminal procedure
- evidence
- burden of proof

PRACTICE AREAS

criminal law

criminal appellate procedure

evidence

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the evidence was legally sufficient to support Alegria's conviction for indecency with a child by contact.

HOLDINGS

1. The evidence was legally sufficient to support Alegria's conviction for indecency with a child by contact.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"To determine whether evidence is sufficient to support a conviction, a reviewing court views all the evidence in the light most favorable to the verdict to decide whether any rational trier of fact could have found the essential elements of the offense beyond a reasonable doubt." (at 2)

"The jury is the sole judge of credibility and weight to be attached to the testimony of witnesses, and juries may draw multiple reasonable inferences from the facts so long as each is supported by the evidence presented at trial." (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The complainant, N.M., testified that Alegria sexually abused her on multiple occasions beginning when she was nine years old. She testified that during a 2019 pool-party incident, Alegria waited for her in a bedroom, directed her onto a bed, and touched her vagina over her underwear with enough pressure to push his finger between her vaginal lips and cause pain. Alegria's wife testified that Alegria was outside cooking most of the time and did not leave the cooking station for more than fifteen minutes, but the jury was entitled to credit N.M.'s testimony and disbelieve or discount the wife's testimony.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Alegria was indicted for continuous sexual abuse of a child younger than fourteen. He pleaded not guilty and was tried before a jury, which convicted him of the lesser-included offense of indecency with a child by contact. The trial court sentenced him to fifteen years in prison, and the court of appeals affirmed.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Jackson v. Virginia, 443 U.S. 307, 319 (1979)
- Brooks v. State, 323 S.W.3d 893, 895 (Tex. Crim. App. 2010)
- Tate v. State, 500 S.W.3d 410, 413 (Tex. Crim. App. 2016)
- Clayton v. State, 235 S.W.3d 772, 778 (Tex. Crim. App. 2007)

- Hooper v. State, 214 S.W.3d 9, 16-17 (Tex. Crim. App. 2007)
- Garcia v. State, 367 S.W.3d 683, 686-87 (Tex. Crim. App. 2012)
- Chambers v. State, 805 S.W.2d 459, 461 (Tex. Crim. App. 1991)

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

Fourth Court of Appeals San Antonio, Texas MEMORANDUM OPINION No. 04-24-00596-CR Juan Carlos ALEGRIA, Appellant v. The STATE of Texas, Appellee From the 437th Judicial District Court, Bexar County, Texas Trial Court No. 2022CR4914 Honorable Joel Perez, Judge Presiding Opinion by: Adrian A. Spears II, Justice Sitting: Rebeca C. Martinez, Chief Justice Adrian A. Spears II, Justice H. Todd McCray, Justice Delivered and Filed: January 21, 2026 AFFIRMED A jury convicted Juan Carlos Alegria of one count of indecency with a child by contact.

On appeal, Alegria argues the evidence is legally insufficient to support his conviction. After reviewing the record under the applicable standard of review, we conclude the evidence is sufficient to support the conviction.

We affirm. 04-24-00596-CR BACKGROUND Because this is a memorandum opinion, and the parties are familiar with the facts, we do not recite them except as necessary to advise the parties of our decision and the basic reasons for it. See TEX. R. APP. P. 47.4. Alegria was indicted for one count of the offense of continuous sex abuse of a child younger than 14 years of age.

Alegria pled not guilty to the allegations in the indictment and was tried before a jury. The complainant, N.M., testified that Alegria sexually abused her on multiple occasions starting when she was nine years old.

The jury found Alegria guilty on the lesser included offense of indecency with a child by contact. The trial court sentenced Alegria to fifteen years in prison. This appeal followed. SUFFICIENCY OF THE EVIDENCE To determine whether evidence is sufficient to support a conviction, a reviewing court views all the evidence in the light most favorable to the verdict to decide whether any rational trier of fact could have found the essential elements of the offense beyond a reasonable doubt.

See Jackson v. Virginia, 443 U.S. 307, 319 (1979); Brooks v. State, 323 S.W.3d 893, 895 (Tex. Crim. App. 2010). “The jury is the sole judge of credibility and weight to be attached to the testimony of witnesses, and juries may draw multiple reasonable inferences from the facts so long as each is supported by the evidence presented at trial.” Tate v. State, 500 S.W.3d 410, 413 (Tex.

Crim. App. 2016). “The jury is not, however, allowed to draw conclusions based on speculation.” Id. A reviewing court determines whether the necessary inferences are reasonable based upon the

combined and cumulative force of all the evidence when viewed in the light most favorable to the verdict. *Clayton v. State*, 235 S.W.3d 772, 778 (Tex. Crim. App. 2007) (citing *Hooper v. State*, 214 S.W.3d 9, 16–17 (Tex.

Crim. App. 2007)). When the record supports conflicting inferences, -2- 04-24-00596-CR a reviewing court must presume that the fact finder resolved the conflicts in favor of the prosecution and defer to that determination. See *Jackson*, 443 U.S. at 326; *Garcia v. State*, 367 S.W.3d 683, 686–87 (Tex. Crim. App. 2012). A person commits the offense of indecency with a child by contact if, with a child younger than 17 years of age, the person engages in sexual contact with the child.

See TEX. PENAL CODE § 21.11(a)(1). The statute defines “sexual contact” as “any touching by a person, including through clothing, of the anus, breast, or any part of the genitals of a child,” provided it is “committed with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.” Id. § 21.11(c).

The trial evidence showed that Alegria was married to N.M.’s grandmother and that N.M. and her immediate family had previously lived in her grandmother and Alegria’s house. N.M., who was sixteen years old by the time of trial, testified that Alegria first touched her inappropriately when she was nine years old. N.M. testified that over the next three years, Alegria had touched her vagina more than ten times, and had forced her to touch his penis more than five times.

N.M. recounted one incident that occurred in the summer of 2019. N.M. was at her grandmother and Alegria’s house for a party and she had been swimming in their pool. After swimming, N.M. went inside the house and used the restroom.

After using the restroom, N.M. went to her former bedroom to change out of her wet clothes. Alegria was waiting for N.M. in the bedroom. N.M. already knew that Alegria was about to touch her. Alegria directed N.M. to get onto the bed and she complied. Alegria then touched N.M. over her underwear. Alegria applied enough pressure to push his finger between her vaginal lips, and he tried to stick his finger in her vagina, which caused N.M. pain.

N.M. added that whenever Alegria did this to her in the bedroom, Alegria made sure that the door was closed. -3- 04-24-00596-CR In arguing that the evidence is insufficient to support his conviction, Alegria focuses on the part of his wife’s testimony suggesting there was not enough time for him to have committed the offense on the day of the pool party in 2019.

The defense re-called Alegria’s wife to testify. On direct examination, Alegria’s wife testified that on the day of the pool party N.M. was outside in the pool most of the time and that Alegria was outside cooking most of the time and she did not notice Alegria missing for any great length of time. She added that at no point did she lose sight of Alegria and that Alegria did not leave the cooking station for more than fifteen minutes.

On cross-examination, the prosecutor asked Alegria's wife, "Now how long does it take for someone to pull down someone's pants and put their hands on their vagina?" Alegria's wife answered, "I don't know." The crux of Alegria's sufficiency complaint is that the jury failed to credit his wife's testimony suggesting that he did not have sufficient time and opportunity to commit the offense and instead "reached inculpatory conclusions based on pure speculation" that he had sufficient time and opportunity to commit the offense.

However, the jury could have reasonably believed the testimony from N.M. that Alegria committed the offense on the day of the pool party and disbelieved the testimony from Alegria's wife suggesting that Alegria did not have sufficient time and opportunity to commit the offense. "As factfinder, the jury is entitled to judge the credibility of witnesses, and can choose to believe all, some, or none of the testimony presented by the parties." *Chambers v. State*, 805 S.W.2d 459, 461 (Tex.

Crim. App. 1991). Based on N.M.'s testimony, the jury could have reasonably found that Alegria engaged in conduct that meets the required elements of indecency with a child by contact. -4- 04-24-00596-CR CONCLUSION We hold the evidence is sufficient to support Alegria's conviction.

The judgment is affirmed. Adrian A. Spears II, Justice DO NOT PUBLISH -5-