

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF FLORIDA, THIRD DISTRICT

Stacey E. Frerichs v. Arthur Mattson

No. 3D24-1848 · No. No. 3D24-1848 · Decided September 24, 2025

SUMMARY

The Florida Third District Court of Appeal affirmed the Monroe County Circuit Court's judgment in an appeal brought by Stacey E. Frerichs and others against Arthur Mattson and others. The court cited standards concerning review of factual findings and the inference of knowledge from circumstantial evidence.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	District Court of Appeal of Florida, Third District
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Lindsey; Bokor; Gooden
JURISDICTION	Florida Third District Court of Appeal
DECIDED	September 24, 2025
DOCKET	No. 3D24-1848
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from a judgment of the Circuit Court for Monroe County.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The trial court's factual findings are reviewed under a competent, substantial evidence standard.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published
PARTIES	Stacey E. Frerichs, et al. v. Arthur Mattson, et al.

TOPICS

- appellate procedure
- standard of review
- evidence

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- evidence
- appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the circuit court's judgment should be affirmed in light of the applicable competent, substantial evidence standard for reviewing factual findings.

HOLDINGS

1. The circuit court's judgment is affirmed.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The trial court’s factual findings are reviewed under a competent, substantial evidence standard.” (73)

“Knowledge is an elusive quality. Like intent, since it is a state of mind, it is often not subject to direct proof and can only be inferred from the circumstances of the case by the trier of fact.” (898-99)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The opinion provides no substantive factual narrative. It indicates that the appeal involved factual findings and an issue concerning whether knowledge could be inferred from circumstantial evidence.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The appellants appealed from a circuit court judgment in Monroe County. The Third District Court of Appeal affirmed without additional discussion, citing authorities concerning review of factual findings and the inference of knowledge from circumstantial evidence.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortg. Co. v. Wright, 253 So. 3d 72, 73 (Fla. 1st DCA 2018)
- Heineman v. State, 327 So. 2d 898, 898-99 (Fla. 3d DCA 1976)

OPINION

Stacey E. Frerichs v. Arthur Mattson

PER CURIAM.

Third District Court of Appeal State of Florida Opinion filed September 24, 2025. Not final until disposition of timely filed motion for rehearing. _____ No. 3D24-1848 Lower Tribunal No. 22-CA-177-M _____ Stacey E. Frerichs, et al., Appellants, vs. Arthur Mattson, et al., Appellees. An Appeal from the Circuit Court for Monroe County, Mark H. Jones, Judge. Older, Lundy, Koch & Martino, and Jon Johnson (Tampa), for appellants. Harvey J. Sepler, P.A., and Harvey J. Sepler (Hollywood); Campbell & Malafy, and Richard A. Malafy (Marathon), for appellees. Before LINDSEY, BOKOR and GOODEN, JJ. PER CURIAM. Affirmed. See Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortg. Co. v. Wright, 253 So. 3d 72, 73 (Fla. 1st DCA 2018) (“The trial court’s factual findings are reviewed under a competent, substantial evidence standard.”); Heineman v. State, 327 So. 2d 898, 898–99 (Fla. 3d DCA 1976) (“Knowledge is an elusive

quality. Like intent, since it is a state of mind, it is often not subject to direct proof and can only be inferred from the circumstances of the case by the trier of fact.”). 2

Retrieved from lawtools.ai · <https://lawtools.ai/cases/federal/district-court-of-appeal-of-florida-third-district/2025/stacey-e-frerichs-v-arthur-mattson-x1sc6w9r>