

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, APPELLATE DIVISION,
SECOND JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

People v. Walker

2026 NY Slip Op 00155 (N.Y. Ct. App. 2026) · No. 2022-06801 · Decided January 14, 2026

SUMMARY

The New York Appellate Division, Second Department, affirmed Malcolm Walker's judgment of conviction for criminal possession of a firearm following his guilty plea. The court held that Walker knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waived his right to appeal, which precluded review of his speedy trial claim concerning the validity of the People's certificate of compliance and statement of readiness.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Colleen D. Duffy, J.P.; Francesca E. Connolly, J.; Laurence L. Love, J.; Susan Quirk, J.
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of the State of New York, Appellate Division, Second Department
DECIDED	January 14, 2026
DOCKET	2022-06801
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendant appealed from a judgment of the Supreme Court, Kings County, entered after his guilty plea to criminal possession of a firearm and imposition of sentence. The appeal challenged the denial of his CPL 30.30 motion to dismiss the indictment based on an allegedly invalid certificate of compliance and illusory statement of readiness.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court reviewed the validity and scope of the defendant's waiver of the right to appeal and whether that waiver precluded appellate review of the speedy-trial claim.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published opinion
PARTIES	Malcolm Walker v. The People of the State of New York

TOPICS

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QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the defendant knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waived his right to appeal.
2. Whether the defendant's valid appellate waiver precluded review of his CPL 30.30 speedy-trial claim.

HOLDINGS

1. A waiver of the right to appeal is enforceable when the record demonstrates that it was made knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily; the record established that Walker's waiver satisfied those requirements.
2. The defendant's valid waiver of the right to appeal precluded appellate review of his speedy-trial claim.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A waiver of the right to appeal is effective only so long as the record demonstrates that it was made knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily” (at *2)

“The defendant's valid waiver of his right to appeal precludes review of his speedy trial claim” (at *2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Walker was convicted upon his guilty plea of criminal possession of a firearm arising from his use of a firearm on a public street in Brooklyn while multiple bystanders were present. He argued that the People's certificate of compliance was invalid because certain materials discoverable under CPL 245.20(1) had not been disclosed when the certificate was filed.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Walker pleaded guilty to criminal possession of a firearm in Supreme Court, Kings County. Before judgment, he moved under CPL 30.30(1)(a) to dismiss the indictment, arguing that the People's certificate of compliance was invalid because certain discoverable materials had not been disclosed and that the People's statement of readiness was therefore illusory. The trial court denied the motion, finding the certificate valid and 179 days chargeable to the People. The Appellate Division affirmed, holding that Walker's valid appellate-waiver provision barred review of the speedy-trial claim.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- People v. Batista, 167 A.D.3d 69, 72-73 (2d Dep't 2018)

- People v. Christopher B., 184 A.D.3d 657, 658 (2d Dep't 2020)
- People v. Lopez, 6 N.Y.3d 248, 255-256 (2005)
- People v. Hansen, 95 N.Y.2d 227, 230 (2000)
- People v. Thomas, 34 N.Y.3d 545, 558-564, 566 (2019)
- People v. Calvi, 89 N.Y.2d 868, 871 (1996)
- People v. Gore, 224 A.D.3d 848, 848 (2d Dep't 2024)
- People v. Lowe, 240 A.D.3d 771 (2d Dep't 2025)

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

People v Walker (2026 NY Slip Op 00155) People v Walker 2026 NY Slip Op 00155 Decided on January 14, 2026 Appellate Division, Second Department Published by New York State Law Reporting Bureau pursuant to Judiciary Law § 431. This opinion is uncorrected and subject to revision before publication in the Official Reports. Decided on January 14, 2026 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department COLLEEN D. DUFFY, J.P.

FRANCESCA E. CONNOLLY LAURENCE L. LOVE SUSAN QUIRK, JJ. 2022-06801 (Ind. No. 70408/21) [*1]The People of the State of New York, respondent, v Malcolm Walker, appellant. Patricia Pazner, New York, NY (David P. Greenberg of counsel), for appellant. Eric Gonzalez, District Attorney, Brooklyn, NY (Leonard Joblove, Julian Joiris, and David Cao of counsel), for respondent.

DECISION & ORDER Appeal by the defendant from a judgment of the Supreme Court, Kings County (Dineen A. Riviezzo, J.), rendered August 16, 2022, convicting him of criminal possession of a firearm, upon his plea of guilty, and imposing sentence. ORDERED that the judgment is affirmed.

The defendant was convicted, upon his plea of guilty, of criminal possession of a firearm arising out of the defendant's use of a firearm on a public street in Brooklyn with multiple bystanders present. The defendant moved pursuant to CPL 30.30(1)(a) to dismiss the indictment filed against him on the ground that the certificate of compliance (hereinafter the COC) filed by the People was invalid and the statement of readiness was illusory.

According to the defendant, at the time the People filed the COC, they had not disclosed certain materials discoverable under CPL 245.20(1). The People opposed. By order dated May 24, 2022, the Supreme Court denied the defendant's motion on the ground that the COC was valid and that a total of 179 days were chargeable to the People, including the time that had elapsed between the defendant's initial motion to inspect the grand jury minutes and when the People submitted them to the court due to their unreasonable delay.

The defendant appeals. "In New York, a criminal defendant has the right to appeal from a judgment of conviction and sentence" (*People v Batista*, 167 AD3d 69, 72; see CPL 450.10). However, a defendant may waive, as a condition of a plea agreement, "the right to have the appellate court review most claims of error as well as whether the sentence imposed was excessive" (*People v Batista*, 167 AD3d at 73; see *People v Christopher B.*, 184 AD3d 657, 658).

A valid waiver that broadly limits the scope of appeal will generally preclude appellate review of "any issue that does not involve a right of constitutional dimension going to 'the very heart of the process'" (*People v Lopez*, 6 NY3d 248, 255, quoting *People v Hansen*, 95 NY2d 227, 230; see *People v Batista*, 167 AD3d at 73). Even after executing such a waiver, however, "a defendant [still] retains the right to appellate review of... the voluntariness of the plea and appeal waiver, legality of the sentence and the jurisdiction of the court" (*People v Thomas*, 34 NY3d 545, 566).

"A waiver of the right to appeal [*2]is effective only so long as the record demonstrates that it was made knowingly, intelligently and voluntarily" (*People v Lopez*, 6 NY3d at 256, citing *People v Calvi*, 89 NY2d 868, 871).

The record demonstrates that the defendant knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waived his right to appeal (see *People v Thomas*, 34 NY3d at 558-564; *People v Gore*, 224 AD3d 848, 848). The defendant's valid waiver of his right to appeal precludes review of his speedy trial claim (see *People v Lowe*, 240 AD3d 771; *People v Gore*, 224 AD3d at 848).

Accordingly, the judgment is affirmed. DUFFY, J.P., CONNOLLY, LOVE and QUIRK, JJ., concur. ENTER: Darrell M. Joseph Clerk of the Court