

[J-87-2025]
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA
MIDDLE DISTRICT

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,	:	No. 105 MAP 2024
	:	
Appellee	:	Appeal from the Order of the
	:	Superior Court at No. 886 MDA
	:	2022 entered on October 2, 2023,
v.	:	Affirming the Judgment of
	:	Sentence of the Dauphin County
	:	Court of Common Pleas, Criminal
LUIS MANUEL SERRANO-DELGADO,	:	Division, at No. CP-22-CR-
	:	0005747-2019 entered on May 9,
Appellant	:	2022.
	:	
	:	ARGUED: October 8, 2025

OPINION IN SUPPORT OF AFFIRMANCE

JUSTICE BROBSON

DECIDED: July 21, 2026

Rule 405(a)(2) of the Pennsylvania Rules of Evidence bars “inquiry into *allegations of other criminal conduct* by the defendant, not resulting in conviction,” when cross-examining a character witness for the defendant in a criminal case. (Emphasis added.) While true that juvenile adjudications of delinquency are not convictions, 42 Pa. C.S. § 6354(a), they also are not “allegations of . . . criminal conduct,” Pa.R.E. 405(a)(2). Rather, a juvenile adjudication of delinquency represents a judicial determination of “proof beyond a reasonable doubt that the child *committed the acts* by reason of which he is alleged to be delinquent.” 42 Pa. C.S. § 6341(b) (emphasis added).

Based on the plain language of Rule 405(a)(2), then, cross-examination of a character witness in a criminal case about a defendant’s juvenile adjudication(s) of delinquency does not violate the prohibition against inquiries into “allegations of other criminal conduct . . . not resulting in conviction.” The Dauphin County Court of Common

Pleas, therefore, did not err in denying Appellant Luis Manuel Serrano-Delgado's motion *in limine*. On this basis, I would affirm the Superior Court.