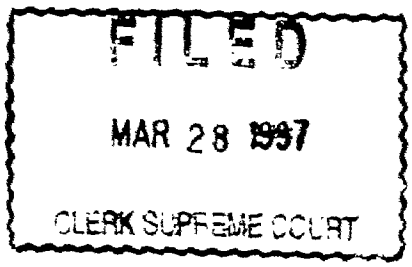
IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

No. 7-109 / 96-1304



IN THE INTEREST OF
J.T., Minor Child,

J.T., Minor Child,
Appellant.

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Polk County, Karla J. Fultz, Associate Juvenile Judge.

Juvenile appeals the juvenile court's adjudication finding he committed the delinquent acts of possession of crack cocaine with intent to deliver and failure to affix drug tax stamps. **AFFIRMED.**

David C. Backstrom, Juvenile Public Defender's Office, Des Moines, for appellant.

Thomas J. Miller, Attorney General, Kathrine S. Miller-Todd, Assistant Attorney General, and Michael Hunter, Assistant County Attorney, for appellee-State.

Considered by Sackett, P.J., and Huitink and Vogel, JJ.

PER CURIAM

Jeremy appeals the decision of the juvenile court finding he had committed the delinquent acts of possession of crack cocaine with intent to deliver and failure to affix a drug tax stamp. We affirm on appeal by memorandum opinion pursuant to Iowa Supreme Court Rule 9.

On January 31, 1996, police officers observed two black men standing on a street corner in an area of Des Moines where there had been numerous reports of drug dealing. During a five-minute time span, the officers saw two vehicles pull up to the men, flag them down, and then meet with them for a short period of time. Jeremy exited the second vehicle and talked to the two men. Officers stopped Jeremy.

Officer Bobbie Wojewoda conducted a pat down search of Jeremy. She stated she could not tell what was in his gloves because they were soft and mushy. She believed there could be a weapon in the gloves, so she pulled them off Jeremy's hands. Fourteen individually packaged rocks of crack cocaine fell out of the gloves.

Jeremy was charged with committing the delinquent acts of possession of crack cocaine with intent to deliver and failure to affix a drug tax stamp. He filed a motion to suppress the results of the search of his gloves. The juvenile court found the search was proper. Jeremy was adjudicated a juvenile delinquent and sent to the Boys State Training School in Eldora. Jeremy appeals this adjudication.

Jeremy believes the juvenile court should have granted his motion to suppress the evidence seized in the warrantless search of his person. He first contends there was insufficient evidence for officers to stop him. To justify an investigatory stop, an officer must have reasonable cause to believe a crime may have occurred. *State v. Stevens,* 394 N.W.2d 388, 391 (Iowa 1986). In our de novo review, we determine the stop was justified. The area was known for drug dealing, and the activity of the men on the corner was consistent with drug dealing. After Jeremy met with these men, officers were justified in stopping him.

Jeremy also claims the search of his gloves exceeded the scope of a stop and frisk search. Under *Terry v. Ohio,* 392 U.S. 1, 885 S. Ct. 1868, 20 L. Ed. 2d 889 (1968), an officer who reasonably fears for his or her own safety may conduct a carefully limited search of a suspect's outer clothing in an attempt to discover weapons. *See State v. Scott,* 518 N.W.2d 347, 349 (Iowa 1994). Office Wojewoda testified she had previously known people to carry weapons in their gloves. She stated she could not tell if Jeremy had a weapon in his gloves, so she pulled them off to make sure he had no weapons. We conclude the officer did not exceed the scope of a permissible pat-down search.

We affirm the decision of the juvenile court adjudicating that Jeremy had committed delinquent acts.

AFFIRMED.