STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

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JESSE BLOUNT,

EEOC Case No. 15D200800921

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2008-02759

v.

DOAH Case No. 09-1212

CEMEX / RINKER MATERIALS,

FCHR Order No. 09-074

Respondent	
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FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Jesse Blount filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2007), alleging that Respondent Cemex / Rinker Materials committed an unlawful employment practice on the bases of Petitioner's age (49) and perceived disability by terminating Petitioner from employment.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on January 29, 2009, the Executive Director issued his determination finding that there was no reasonable cause to believe that an unlawful employment practice had occurred.

Petitioner filed a Petition for Relief from an Unlawful Employment Practice, and the case was transmitted to the Division of Administrative Hearings for the conduct of a formal proceeding.

An evidentiary hearing was held in Gainesville, Florida, on May 6, 2009, before Administrative Law Judge T. Kent Wetherell, II.

Judge Wetherell issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated May 28, 2009. The Commission panel designated below considered the record of this matter and determined the action to be taken on the Recommended Order.

Findings of Fact

A transcript of the proceeding before the Administrative Law Judge was not filed with the Commission. In the absence of a transcript of the proceeding before the Administrative Law Judge, the Recommended Order is the only evidence for the Commission to consider. See National Industries, Inc. v. Commission on Human Relations, et al., 527 So. 2d 894, at 897, 898 (Fla. 5th DCA 1988). Accord, Hall v. Villages of West Oaks HOA, FCHR 08-007 (January 14, 2008), Beach-Gutierrez v. Bay

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Medical Center, FCHR Order No. 05-011 (January 19, 2005), and Waaser v. Streit's Motorsports, FCHR Order No. 04-157 (November 30, 2004).

We adopt the Administrative Law Judge's findings of fact.

Conclusions of Law

We find the Administrative Law Judge's application of the law to the facts to result in a correct disposition of the matter.

We adopt the Administrative Law Judge's conclusions of law.

Exceptions

Neither of the parties filed exceptions to the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order.

Dismissal

The Petition for Relief and Complaint of Discrimination are DISMISSED with prejudice.

The parties have the right to seek judicial review of this Order. The Commission and the appropriate District Court of Appeal must receive notice of appeal within 30 days of the date this Order is filed with the Clerk of the Commission. Explanation of the right to appeal is found in Section 120.68, <u>Florida Statutes</u>, and in the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure 9.110.

DONE AND ORDERED this 18th day of August, 2009. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Anice R. Prosser, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Lizzette Gamero; and Commissioner Billy Whitefox Stall

Filed this 18th day of August, 2009, in Tallahassee, Florida.

Violet Crawford, Clerk

Commission on Human Relations 2009 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 200

Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 488-7082

NOTICE TO COMPLAINANT / PETITIONER

As your complaint was filed under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which is enforced by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), you have the right to request EEOC to review this Commission's final agency action. To secure a "substantial weight review" by EEOC, you must request it in writing within 15 days of your receipt of this Order. Send your request to Miami District Office (EEOC), One Biscayne Tower, 2 South Biscayne Blvd., Suite 2700, 27th Floor, Miami, FL 33131.

Copies furnished to:

Jesse Blount 7814 Railroad Drive Hawthorne, FL 32640

Cemex / Rinker Materials c/o David A. Young, Esq. Fisher & Phillips, LLP 300 South Orange Avenue, Suite 1250 Orlando, FL 32801

T. Kent Wetherell, II, Administrative Law Judge, DOAH

James Mallue, Legal Advisor for Commission Panel

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed to the above listed addressees this <u>18th</u> day of <u>August</u>, 2009.

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations