STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

CHRISTOPHER CASTELLIO, SR.,

2011 FEB -9 A 1HUD Case No. 04-10-0322-8

Petitioner,

AND STRAIN FCHR Case No. 2010H0157

V.

DOAH Case No. 10-1848

ALACHUA COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY,

FCHR Order No. 11-014

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM A DISCRIMINATORY HOUSING PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Christopher Castellio, Sr., filed a housing discrimination complaint pursuant to the Fair Housing Act, Sections 760.20 - 760.37, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2009), alleging that Respondent Alachua County Housing Authority committed a discriminatory housing practice on the bases of Petitioner's race (African American), color (light-skinned), National Origin (Italian), and handicap in the provision of housing assistance to Petitioner and his family.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on March 2, 2010, the Executive Director issued a determination finding that there was no reasonable cause to believe that a discriminatory housing practice had occurred.

Petitioner filed a Petition for Relief from a Discriminatory Housing 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 October 4, 2010, before Administrative Law Judge James H. Peterson, III.

Judge Peterson issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated November 24, 2010.

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 Order No. 08-007 (January 14, 2008), Beach-Gutierrez v. Bay 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 Housing Discrimination Complaint 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 <u>8th</u> day of <u>February</u>, 2011. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Donna Elam, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Gayle Cannon; and Commissioner Billy Whitefox Stall

Filed this 8th day of February, 2011, in Tallahassee, Florida.

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Violet Crawford, Clerk

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James H. Peterson, III, 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 8th day of February, 2011.

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations