# STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

### TERRY R. DOUGLAS,

EEOC Case No. 15D201400222

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2014-00172

v.

GULF COAST ENTERPRISE,

Respondent,

FCHR Order No. 14-044

DOAH Case No. 14-2524

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

### Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Terry R. Douglas filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2013), alleging that Respondent Gulf Coast Enterprise committed unlawful employment practices on the bases of Petitioner's race (African American) and disability by harassing Petitioner, by subjecting Petitioner to different terms and conditions of employment, and by terminating Petitioner from employment.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on May 16, 2014, the Executive Director issued a 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 Pensacola, Florida, on July 25, 2014, before Administrative Law Judge R. Bruce McKibben.

Judge McKibben issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated August 27, 2014.

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

We find the Administrative Law Judge's findings of fact to be supported by competent substantial evidence.

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

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## 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 7th day of Moumber, 2014. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Michael Keller, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Onelia Fajardo-Garcia; and Commissioner Rebecca Steele

Filed this <u>7</u><sup>th</sup> day of <u>Norumbur</u>, 2014, in Tallahassee, Florida.

huzanne Costilia Clerk

Commission on Human Relations 2009 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 100 Tallahassee, FL 32301 (850) 488-7082

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Copies furnished to:

Terry R. Douglas 7591 West Highway 98, Apt. 9B Pensacola, FL 32506

Gulf Coast Enterprise c/o Breanna H. Young, Esq. Starnes Davis Florie, LLP 100 Brookwood Place, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Post Office Box 598512 Birmingham, AL 35259

R. Bruce McKibben, 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  $2^{H}$  day of  $10^{H}$  day of 2014.

By: Chuyanne Casticia

Clerk of the Commission Florida Commission on Human Relations