STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

Petitioner, FCHR Case No. 15D201400098

Potitioner, FCHR Case No. 2013-02051

V. DOAH Case No. 14-2526

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS,

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Charlotte A. Pinkerton filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, Florida Statutes (2012), alleging that Respondent Florida Department of Corrections committed unlawful employment practices on the bases of Petitioner's race (white), age (DOB: 3-31-47) and disability by subjecting Petitioner to harassment and by retaliating against Petitioner for complaining about the harassment by creating a hostile work environment, resulting in Petitioner's constructive discharge from employment.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on May 5, 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 Clermont, Florida, on February 6, 2015, before Administrative Law Judge Lynne A. Quimby-Pennock.

Judge Quimby-Pennock issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated March 4, 2015.

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, Coleman v. Daytona Beach, Ocean Center Parking Garage, FCHR Order No. 14-034 (September 10, 2014), Gantz, et al. v. Zion's Hope, Inc., d/b/a Holy Land Experience, FCHR Order No. 11-048 (June 6, 2011), and Hall v. Villages of West Oaks HOA, FCHR Order No. 08-007 (January 14, 2008).

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 21 day of May, 2015. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Michael Keller, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Onelia Fajardo-Garcia; and Commissioner J. Jeff Graber

Filed this 21 day of May, 2015, in Tallahassee, Florida.

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Clerk

Commission on Human Relations 4075 Esplanade Way, Room 110 Tallahassee, FL 32399

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Copies furnished to:

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Lynne A. Quimby-Pennock, 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 26 day of 77, 2015.

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations