STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

MELISSA TERRELL,

HUD Case No. 04-14-0528-8

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2014H0175

v.

DOAH Case No. 14-4577

PROPERTIES GROUP MANAGEMENT, LLC; LEE ADAMS; YARON M. DAVID; AND RAMON PEREZ, JR., FCHR Order No. 15-032

Respondents.

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM A DISCRIMINATORY HOUSING PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Melissa Terrell filed a housing discrimination complaint pursuant to the Fair Housing Act, Sections 760.20 - 760.37, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2013), alleging that Respondents Properties Group Management, LLC, Lee Adams, Yaron M. David and Ramon Perez, Jr., committed a discriminatory housing practice by subjecting Petitioner to a hostile living environment in connection with Petitioner's rental of a mobile home lot by sexually harassing Petitioner.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on September 8, 2014, 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 by video teleconference at sites in Tampa and Tallahassee, Florida, on January 30, 2015, before Administrative Law Judge Robert E. Meale.

Judge Meale issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated March 23, 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

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.

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

None 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 Oday of June, 2015. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Gilbert M. Singer, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Tony Jenkins; and Commissioner Rebecca Steele

Filed this 10 day of in Tallahassee, Florida

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

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Copies furnished to:

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Properties Group Management, LLC, Lee Adams and Yaron M. David c/o Rachel K. Beige, Esq. c/o Joseph F. Valdivia, Esq. Cole, Scott & Kissane, P.A. 1645 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., 2nd Floor West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Ramon Perez, Jr. 5810 U.S. Highway 92 West, Lot # 153 Plant City, FL 33567

Robert E. Meale, 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 ________, 2015.

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations