STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

DANTE CANDELARIA,

EEOC Case No. NONE

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2014-00812

v.

CITY OF ORLANDO,

FCHR Order No. 15-040

DOAH Case No. 14-4984

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Dante Candelaria 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 City of Orlando committed an unlawful employment practice on the bases of Petitioner's national origin (Puerto Rican), age (DOB: 10-23-72) and disability by terminating Petitioner from employment.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on September 23, 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 by video teleconference at sites in Orlando and Tallahassee, Florida, on March 5 and 6, 2015, before Administrative Law Judge D. R. Alexander.

Judge Alexander issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated April 21, 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 <u>National Industries</u>, Inc. v. Commission on Human <u>Relations</u>, et al., 527 So. 2d 894, at 897, 898 (Fla. 5th DCA 1988). Accord, <u>Coleman v.</u>

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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 <u>9</u> day of <u>July</u>, 2015. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON MUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Gilbert M. Singer, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Rebecca Steele; and Commissioner Billy Whitefox Stall

July Filed this <u></u>day of <u></u> ____, 2015, in Tallahassee, Florida.

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nmy Bart Clerk

Commission on Human Relations 4075 Esplanade Way, Room 110 Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 488-7082

Copies furnished to:

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D. R. Alexander, Administrative Law Judge, DOAH

James Mallue, Legal Advisor for Commission Panel

I HEREBY CERTIEY that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed to the above listed addressees this ______ day of ______, 2015.

Bv:

Clerk of the Commussion Florida Commission on Human Relations