### STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

DARRELL ALFORD,

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2015-00260

v.

DOAH Case No. 15-3620

PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS, INC.,

FCHR Order No. 16-017

Respondent.
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# FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS PRACTICE

## **Preliminary Matters**

Petitioner Darrell Alford filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 509.092 and 760.01 - 760.11, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2014), alleging that Respondent Publix Super Markets, Inc., committed an unlawful public accommodations practice on the bases of Petitioner's race (Black), color (Black), sex (male) and disability by refusing to fill a prescription presented by Petitioner.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on May 27, 2015, the Executive Director issued a determination finding that there was no reasonable cause to believe that an unlawful public accommodations practice had occurred.

Petitioner filed a Petition for Relief and the case was transmitted to the Division of Administrative Hearings for the conduct of a formal proceeding.

An evidentiary hearing was held in Orlando, Florida, on November 16, 2015, before Administrative Law Judge Lawrence P. Stevenson.

Judge Stevenson issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated February 2, 2016.

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**

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 7 day of 4 day of 5. 2016. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Gilbert M. Singer, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Tony Jenkins; and Commissioner Jay Pichard

\_, 2016,

Clerk

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

(850) 488-7082

FCHR Order No. 16-017 Page 3

Copies furnished to:

Darrell Alford 1361 Broken Pine Road Deltona, FL 32725

Publix Super Markets, Inc. c/o Matthew D. Westerman, Esq. Fisher & Phillips, LLP 101 East Kennedy Blvd., Ste. 2350 Tampa, FL 33602

Lawrence P. Stevenson, 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 abov	e
listed addressees this/	_ day of	

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations