STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

MARY L. SMITH,

EEOC Case No. 15D201500332

Petitioner,

v.

WAL-MART STORES, EAST, LP,

Respondent.

DOAH Case No. 15-3942

FCHR Case No. 2015-00596

FCHR Order No. 16-027

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Mary L. Smith filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2014), alleging that Respondent Wal-Mart Stores, East, LP, committed unlawful employment practices on the bases of Petitioner's race (Black) and age (DOB: 4-7-34), and on the basis of retaliation, by subjecting Petitioner to adverse terms and conditions of employment, by showing favoritism toward younger, non-Black employees, and by sending Petitioner home for refusing to perform a task allegedly not in Petitioner's job description.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on June 19, 2015, 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 Tallahassee, Florida, on January 21, 2016, before Administrative Law Judge James H. Peterson, III.

Judge Peterson issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated March 25, 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.

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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 $\underline{9}$ day of $\underline{4}$. 2016. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Gilbert M. Singer, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Donna Elam; and Commissioner Sandra Turner

Jun Filed this _____ day of _____ ____, 2016, in Tallahassee, Florida.

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Clerk / Commission on Human Relations 4075 Esplanade Way, Room 110 Tallahassee, FL 32399 (850) 488-7082 FCHR Order No. 16-027 Page 3

Copies furnished to:

Mary L. Smith 3137 Atwater Road Chattahoochee, FL 32324

Wal-Mart Stores, East, LLP c/o Jonathan A. Beckerman, Esq. c/o Grissel Seijo, Esq. Littler Mendelson, PC 333 SE 2nd Ave., Ste. 2700 Miami, FL 33131

James H. Peterson, III, 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 ______ day of ______, 2016.

By: Jammy Barton

Clerk of the Commission Florida Commission on Human Relations