

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

SHIRLEY P. WILLIAMS,

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2017-01609

v.

DOAH Case No. 18-2241

TOWNSEND SEAFOOD,

FCHR Order No. 18-043

Respondent.

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**FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR  
RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS PRACTICE**

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Shirley P. Williams filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 509.092 and 760.01 - 760.11, Florida Statutes (2017), alleging that Respondent Townsend Seafood committed unlawful public accommodations practices on the bases of Petitioner's race (Black) and sex (female) when the Respondent restaurant's owner, on several occasions, harassed Petitioner while Petitioner was waiting at a bus stop on public property in front of Respondent restaurant.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on April 17, 2018, 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 Jacksonville, Florida, on June 27, 2018, before Administrative Law Judge Lawrence P. Stevenson.

Judge Stevenson issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated July 13, 2018.

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

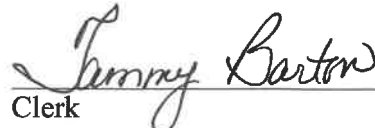
The Petition for Relief and Complaint of Discrimination are DISMISSED with prejudice.

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, Florida Statutes, and in the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure 9.110.

DONE AND ORDERED this 14 day of September, 2018.  
FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Tony Jenkins, Panel Chairperson;  
Commissioner Donna Elam; and  
Commissioner Mario Garza

Filed this 14 day of September, 2018,  
in Tallahassee, Florida.



Clerk  
Commission on Human Relations  
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Copies furnished to:

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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 above listed addressees this 14 day of September, 2018.

By: Tommy Barton  
Clerk of the Commission  
Florida Commission on Human Relations