STATE OF FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

DANIEL ASKINAS,	EEOC Case No. 15D201700871
Petitioner,	FCHR Case No. 2017-01569
v.	DOAH Case No. 18-3956
UNITED NATURAL FOODS,	FCHR Order No. 19-011
Respondent.	
	/

FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Daniel Askinas filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, <u>Florida Statutes</u> (2017), alleging that Respondent United Natural Foods committed an unlawful employment practice on the bases of Petitioner's race (not specified in complaint) and religion (Jewish) by failing to hire Petitioner for a Merchandiser position for which he had applied.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on June 18, 2018, 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 West Palm Beach and Tallahassee, Florida, on September 17, 2018, before Administrative Law Judge Robert E. Meale.

Judge Meale issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated November 28, 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

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 day of Juliumy, 2019. FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Tony Jenkins, Panel Chairperson; Commissioner Donna Elam; and Commissioner Jay Pichard

Filed this _ (a day of _ february __, 2019, in Tallahassee, Florida.

Clerk

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

(850) 488-7082

FCHR Order No. 19-011 Page 3

Copies furnished to:

Daniel Askinas 1208 East Atlantic Ave., Apt. A Delray Beach, FL 33483

United Natural Foods c/o Nancy A. Johnson, Esq. Littler Mendelson, P.C. 111 North Magnolia Ave., Ste. 1250 Orlando, FL 32801

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 _____ day of ______ 2019.

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations