

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

BRIDGET D. NELSON,

EEOC Case No. N/A

Petitioner,

FCHR Case No. 2018-07085

v.

DOAH Case No. 19-1562

AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE,
ADMINISTRATION

FCHR Order No. 19-062

Respondent.

**FINAL ORDER DISMISSING PETITION FOR
RELIEF FROM AN UNLAWFUL EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE**

Preliminary Matters

On March 29 2018, Petitioner Bridget D. Nelson filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, Florida Statutes (2017), alleging that Respondent Agency for Health Care Administration committed an unlawful employment practice against Petitioner on the bases of age, race, sex, and retaliation after she filed an internal grievance alleging discrimination and was subsequently terminated from employment.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on March 19, 2019, the Executive Director issued a determination finding that there was no reasonable cause to believe that an unlawful employment practice had occurred.

On March 20, 2019, Petitioner filed a "Petition for Relief from an Unlawful Employment Practice", and the case was transmitted to the Division of Administrative Hearings on March 21, 2019 for the conduct of a formal proceeding.

An evidentiary hearing was scheduled for May 16, 2019, but, on April 5, 2019, was continued due to a scheduling conflict.

An evidentiary hearing was held in Tallahassee, Florida, on July 2, 2019, before Administrative Law Judge Lawrence P. Stevenson.

Judge Stevenson issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated August 21, 2019.

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 party filed exceptions to the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order.

Dismissal

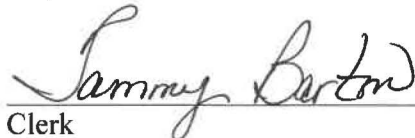
The Petition for Relief and Complaint of Discrimination are DISMISSED with prejudice.

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

Commissioner Tony Jenkins, Panel Chairperson;
Commissioner Donna Elam (not present and did not participate); and Commissioner Rebecca Steele

Filed this 12 day of November, 2019,
in Tallahassee, Florida.



Clerk

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

Copies furnished to:

Bridget D. (Nelson) Levens
3001 Mock Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Agency for Health Care Administration
c/o Andrew Sheeran, Esquire
c/o Susan Sapoznikoff, Esquire
2727 Mahan Drive, MS #3
Tallahassee, FL 32308

Lawrence F. Stevenson, Administrative Law Judge, DOAH

Sarah Stewart, Legal Advisor for Commission Panel

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed to the above listed addressees this 12 day of November, 2019.

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