

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

ROBERT E. PACE,

Petitioner,

v.

SADDLE CREEK CORPORATION,

Respondent.

FCHR Case No. 2018-5908

EEOC Case No. 15D201800548

DOAH Case No. 19-1636

FCHR Order No. 19-059

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

Preliminary Matters

Petitioner Robert E. Pace, Sr. 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 Saddle Creek Corporation committed an unlawful employment practice on the basis of retaliation by terminating Petitioner.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on March 6, 2019, 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 Lakeland, Florida, on June 5, 2019, before Administrative Law Judge John D. C. Newton, II.

Judge Newton issued a Recommended Order of dismissal, dated July 11, 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.

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 1st day of October, 2019.

FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Latanya Peterson, Panel Chairperson;
Commissioner Donna Elam; and
Commissioner Jay Pichard

Filed this 1st day of October 2019, in
Tallahassee, Florida.



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John D. C. Newton, II, Administrative Law Judge

Radhika Puri, Legal Advisor for Commission Panel

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed to the above listed addressees this 1st day of October, 2019.

By: Sammy Barton

Clerk of the Commission

Florida Commission on Human Relations