

STATE OF FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

RONALD JONES,

FCHR Case No. 2021-27938

Petitioner,

DOAH Case No. 21-1491

v.

FCHR Order No. 21-085

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,

Respondent.

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

Preliminary Matters

Ronald Jones, Petitioner, filed a complaint of discrimination pursuant to the Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992, Sections 760.01 - 760.11, Florida Statutes (2020), alleging that the Florida Department of Education, Respondent, committed unlawful employment practices on the basis of Petitioner's race, gender, and age; and on the basis of retaliation.

The allegations set forth in the complaint were investigated, and, on April 19, 2021, the Executive Director issued a "Determination: No Reasonable Cause".

On April 30, 2021, 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.

On June 2, 2021, Respondent filed a Motion for Summary Recommended Order (supported by affidavits), alleging that Petitioner's claims failed as a matter of law because Petitioner was never an employee of Respondent and also that an approach to the case under the claim that Respondent unlawfully withheld a license, certification, or other credential was inapplicable under the law.

On June 28 and 29, 2021, Petitioner filed objections to the Motion for Summary Recommended Order.

Administrative Law Judge Lawrence P. Stevenson issued a Recommended Order of Dismissal, dated July 13, 2021, with findings of fact that were based on the filings in the case.

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 that the Administrative Law Judge's findings of fact are supported by competent and substantial evidence. We adopt the Administrative Law Judge's findings of facts.

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.

Accordingly, we adopt the Administrative Law Judge's conclusions of law.

Exceptions

Neither party filed exceptions to the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order of Dismissal.

Dismissal

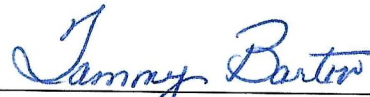
The Petition for Relief and Employment Discrimination Complaint are DISMISSED with prejudice.

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 16 day of December, 2021.
FOR THE FLORIDA COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS:

Commissioner Darrick McGhee, Panel Chairperson;
Commissioner Mario Garza; and
Commissioner Kenyetta Moye.

Filed this 16 day of December, 2021, in Tallahassee, Florida.



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

Copies furnished to:

Ronald Jones
1821 McKelvy Street
Quincy, Florida 32351

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Florida Department of Education
c/o Paula Harrigan, Esquire
Office of the General Counsel
Florida Department of Education
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1544
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400

Lawrence P. Stevenson, Administrative Law Judge, DOAH

John Scotese, Legal Advisor for Commission Panel

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed to the above listed addressees this 16 day of December, 2021.

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