

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of Panel B
July 24, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Michael A. Bilandic Building
160 North LaSalle Street, Suite N-1000
Chicago, Illinois 60601

and

Jefferson Terrace
300 West Jefferson Street, Suite 108
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Via Webex

MINUTES

PRESENT

Commissioners:

Panel – Stephen A. Kouri II (Panel Chair)
Jacqueline Y. Collins
Demoya R. Gordon

Also Attending – Selma D'Souza (Commission Chair)

Staff:

Tracey Fleming, Executive Director
David Larson, General Counsel
Claudia Ortega, Chief Financial and Human Resources Officer
Bonnie Kim, Deputy General Counsel
Adrian Atwater, Assistant General Counsel
Emily Curosh, Assistant General Counsel
Shantelle Baker, Administrative Assistant I
LaNade Bridges, Private Secretary
James Cook, Office Specialist
Jonathon Ferguson, Coles Fellow
Navya Nagubadi, Coles Fellow
Patience McHenry, Coles Fellow

Members of the Public:

Michael Vernon
David Rothal
Deena Sanceda
Joanna Szuba
Sam Kantz

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I. Call to Order

A meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission Panel B was called to order on Wednesday, July 24, 2024, at 9:04 a.m. by Panel Chair Kouri.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 *et seq.*, it was determined that:

All three Commissioners were physically present at the meeting.

II. Minutes – June 26, 2024

Panel B adopted the minutes as submitted by staff. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

III. Requests for Review

- A. *Latonia Walker vs. Extended Stay Naperville East*
Charge No.: 2022CH0561 ALS No.: 23-0252

Panel B adopted the proposed order vacating the Department's dismissal of Counts A, E, and F and remanding the counts for further investigation, sustaining the dismissal of Counts B, C, D, G, I, J, K, L, M, and N for lack of substantial evidence, and vacating the dismissal of Count H and remanding the count for a finding of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- B. *Althea J. Stroud vs. Allison Thompson*
Charge No.: 2023SN1279 ALS No.: 23-0272

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- C. *Althea J. Stroud vs. Christina Yager*
Charge No.: 2023SN1280 ALS No.: 23-0273

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- D. *Cecille D. Balutan vs. State of Illinois – Department of Children and Family Services*
Charge No.: 2022CF1125 ALS No.: 23-0336

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of Counts A, B, C, F, H, I, and J of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence, vacating the dismissal of Counts D, E, and K and remanding the counts for a finding of substantial evidence, and vacating the dismissal of Count G and remanding the count for further investigation. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

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- E. *William Swisher vs. OS Restaurant Services, LLC*
Charge No.: 2023SA1098 ALS No.: 24-0046

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- F. *Leon Modrowski vs. Denny's Restaurant*
Charge No.: 2023CP1124 ALS No.: 24-0050

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- G. *Dionne Walker vs. State of Illinois, Department of Human Services, Northwest Family Community Resource Center*
Charge No.: 2023CF0506 ALS No.: 24-0062

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- H. *LaShunte A. Walton vs. School District #150 South Holland*
Charge No.: 2023CA1702 ALS No.: 24-0109

Panel B adopted the proposed order sustaining the Department's dismissal of the Petitioner's charge for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- I. *Kyesha Shaw vs. First Student, Inc.*
Charge No.: 2023SF1848 ALS No.: 24-0157

Panel B adopted the proposed order vacating the Department's dismissal of Count A of the Petitioner's charge and remanding the count for further investigation and sustaining the dismissal of Count B for lack of substantial evidence. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

IV. Contested Matter

- A. *Bernadette Beasley vs. Lifecore Rehab and Counseling Services, S.C.*
Charge No.: 2017CA1222 ALS No.: 19-0409

Panel B adopted the proposed order declining review of the ROD and making it a final order of the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

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V. Motions

- A. Motion for a New Trial
Adrienne C. Barron vs. Ford Motor Company
Charge No.: 2020CA1816 ALS No.: 21-0211

Panel B struck the motion because it did not have the statutory authority to consider it. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- B. Motion for Voluntary Dismissal
Rachel Stewart vs. Tri-County Opportunities Council
Charge No.: 2022CF2004 ALS No.: 23-0349

Panel B determined that the motion was moot. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- C. Motion for Extension of Time to File a Reply
Israel Ortega vs. Rivian Automotive LLC
Charge No.: 2023SF0898 ALS No.: 24-0172

Panel B granted the motion. The Petitioner shall file a Reply with the Commission on or before August 29, 2024. No further extensions will be allowed. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

- D. Motion for Extension of Time to File a Request for Review
Janiel Brownridge vs. R#1 – Kazimierz Obrochta, R#2 – Genevieve Obrochta, and R#3 – Tinley Park Realty, LLC
Charge No.: 2023CH0641 ALS No.: 24-0204

Panel B granted the motion. The Petitioner shall file a Request with the Commission on or before September 13, 2024. No further extensions will be allowed. Motion made by Commissioner Collins; seconded by Commissioner Gordon. Motion carried 3-0-0.

VI. Public Comments

None.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m. Motion made by Commissioner Gordon; seconded by Commissioner Collins. Motion carried 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Curosh
Assistant General Counsel
Illinois Human Rights Commission