

**COOK COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

69 West Washington, Suite 3040  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

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Cynthia SANDERS, Complainant )

v. )

COOK COUNTY BUREAU OF HEALTH )  
SERVICES, Respondent )

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Case No. 2006E048

Entered: August 26, 2014

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**ORDER**

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On October 17, 2006, Complainant Cynthia Sanders ("Sanders") filed a complaint against the Cook County Bureau of Health Services, for discrimination in employment, based on her race, in violation of the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance. The Cook County Commission on Human Rights ("Commission") has not yet made an evidence determination with respect to this matter, but on August 25, 2014, the Commission received a fully executed Withdrawal Request Form ("Request") from Sanders.

Pursuant to the Commission's Procedural Rules:

A Complainant may request to withdraw a Complaint or any part thereof at any time. A Complainant's request to withdraw a Complaint shall be in writing and shall be signed by the Complainant or his/her attorney of record. Under such circumstances, the request may be presumed to be knowingly and voluntarily made, and the Commission may approve the request and enter an order dismissing the Complaint.

CCHR Pro. R. 420.160.

The Request was signed by Sanders and states, in substance, that the Commission failed to act on her case until years after it was filed. The Commission acknowledges that it fell short of its own standards of diligence and efficiency in resolving the pending matter. Consistent failure to do so in both this case and others necessitated a change in leadership at the Commission approximately one year ago. Since that time, the Commission has reduced the size of its backlog by more than two-thirds and redoubled its efforts to close old investigations and quickly complete new ones. That is cold comfort for Sanders. For an investigation this old, memories with respect to her particular dispute have likely faded and key documents and witnesses will be difficult, if not impossible, to locate.

The Commission cannot guarantee that Sanders is the last litigant who will ever find the Commission lacking, but by closing the oldest case on its docket, the Commission is taking a

substantial step towards reallocating its limited resources to provide for more just outcomes in future cases. Without forgiving the Commission's past omissions, Sanders attests that she is making her request here to withdraw voluntarily and without pressure from any organization or individual.

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission hereby grants Sander's request to withdraw her complaint and orders that complaint 2006E048 be DISMISSED pursuant to a VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL.

August 26, 2014

By delegation:



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Ranjit Hakim  
Executive Director of the Cook County  
Commission on Human Rights