BEFORE THE CITY OF SEATTLE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

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Appellant vs. CITY OF SEATTLE, SEATTLE CITY LIGHT Respondent

MEMORANDUM DECISION AND DISMISSAL ORDER

CSC No. 09-07-005

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Tucker filed a Notice of Appeal (Notice) with the Seattle Civil Service Commission on May 20, 2009.

On May 28 the Department responded to the Appellant's Notice requesting that the appeal be dismissed because 1) the Appellant was vague in his description of fact, 2) the Commission had no jurisdiction and 3) the appeal was not timely filed. On June 9, the Commission's Executive Director responded setting a pre-hearing for June 22, 2009 to establish the merits of the appeal. The Appellant filed a response on June 15.

The Commission considered the appeal at its June 17, 2009 meeting. The appeal was delegated to Hearing Officer, Christopher Mathews to decide if the Department's internal grievance process had been exhausted. A pre-hearing was held on June 22, 2009. Responses and documentation related to the issue before the Hearing Officer was due from all parties by July 16, 2009.

On July 30th, 2009 Hearing Officer Mathews issued a Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Decision and Order on the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss and dismissed the appeal for lack of jurisdiction.

On August 8, 2009, the Respondent filed a <u>Notice of Appearance</u> for Assistant City Attorney Katrina Kelly and a <u>Petition for Review</u> of the Hearing Officer's Decision. The Petition requested that the Commission amend the Hearing Officer's decision by deleting Conclusions of Law 3, 4, 5, 6,7,8,9 and 11, concluding that they are "confusing, misleading and erroneous", to modify Finding of Fact 12. "... to accurately reflect Personnel Rule 1.4.3" and to strike references to due process.

The Appellant submitted a response to the Petition on August 19, 2009 requesting that the Respondent's motion be denied.

After consideration of the Hearing Officer's Decision and Order, the Respondent's Petition for Review and the Appellant's response at its September 16, 2009 meeting, the Seattle Civil Service Commission enters the following

DECISION

The Commission will modify the Hearing Officer's decision as follows:

- Conclusions of Law 3, 4, 5, 6,7,8,9 and 11 is *dictum proprium* and will be placed under "Conclusions/Observations".
- Conclusions of Law 1, 2, 10 and 12 will remain under Conclusion of Law.
- Finding of Fact 12 will be restated to more accurately reflect Personnel Rule 1.4.3.
- Reference to "due process" will be footnoted to reflect that the Commission's
 assessment that the Hearing Officer is referring to the Respondent's documented
 policies and practices and employee fair treatment and not due process in a
 constitutional context.

ORDER

A modified decision will be issued in the above appeal. This appeal is hereby dismissed with prejudice.

Issued this 21st day of October, 2009

FOR THE CITY OF SEATTLE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Glenda J. Graham-Walton, Executive Director