


1:14 o'clock p.m. March 18, 2024

MR. LOSTUTTER: I think that we have everybody present, so we will begin our meeting, and before we do, I'll read my little announcement there. Please be advised no party will be allowed to speak directly to the Commission during any Commission meeting except during a previously scheduled oral argument.

Concerning appeals, Commissioners will make their initial determination based on the complaint, the notice of finding, the appeal, and the final investigative report. You must not address the Commission members except and unless you are addressed directly by them. If you have any questions about your case, please wait to speak to the Docket Clerk until after the Commission meeting.

Thank you.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.

It is 1:15, that's not bad for a delay.

We'll go ahead and call this meeting of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission to order. And
we'll begin with the announcement of the agenda. MR. LOSTUTTER: We will have an approval of previous meeting minutes; we will then have the ICRC Director's Report; we will then attend to Old Business, primarily appeals that were set last month; and then we will have New Business, Appointment of Commissioners to Complainants' Appeals of Director's Findings; we will then have the Other Motions and Filings and briefly deal with Review of ALJ Decisions and Orders; and then reading into the record Automatically Confirmed Orders.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
Is there a motion to approve last month's meeting minutes?

COMM. TOLLIVER: So moved.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Is there a second?

COMM. SILBERBERG: Second.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
We shall call a roll because we have
Comm. Blackburn on the line.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay.

| 1 | And Comm. Blackburn? |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | (No response.) |
| 3 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Are you voting aye on |
| 4 | the approval of the meeting? |
| 5 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Can you hear her? |
| 6 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Yes, I can -- |
| 7 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Oh, okay. |
| 8 | MR. LOSTUTTER: -- hear her. |
| 9 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: You can hear her, |
| 10 | because we can't. |
| 11 | MR. LOSTUTTER: I'm sorry. |
| 12 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: That's okay. |
| 13 | MR. LOSTUTTER: She voted aye. |
| 14 | Comm. Harrington? |
| 15 | (No response.) |
| 16 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: She's also an |
| 17 | aye? |
| 18 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Yes, she is -- |
| 19 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. |
| 20 | MR. LOSTUTTER: -- an aye. |
| 21 | Yes, yes, we did hear you. |
| 22 | Comm. Silberberg? |
| 23 | COMM. SILBERBERG: Aye. |

MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Tolliver?
COMM. TOLLIVER: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Vice-Chair Ramos?
VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Chair Slash?
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: The ayes have it.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
Now we have the Director's Report.
MR. WILSON: Thank you, Chair. I appreciate it.

Thanks, everybody, for braving this snow and different weather that we have out there. So, David's not here, so $I$ will just kind of go through a few things. One thing is, 2024, we know at the end of the year we'll be getting a new Governor, and so, one of the things that we're trying to do, my focus is making sure that everything is in place to transition well. So, we're working on the nuts and bolts and all of the processes. That's my main concern and main focus for this year.

You know, of course, we're going to have
our conference in september, but $I$ want everybody to -- make sure everybody understands how the Case Management System works, I want to make sure that DocuSign's working perfect for us, and all of the other different new pieces of technology, whether it's the Genesys phone system -- I just want to make sure everything is going smoothly, so that when we do transition it will be a smooth transition.

The other things kind of going on right now is the media campaigns. Last month we did Black History Month. This month we're doing Women's Commission. We're getting ready for Disability Month and working on those type of marketing and PSA's. Also we have Fair Housing Month in April, so we'll be having a virtual panel that will be presenting.

Testing program, we just signed another agreement with IACDA to do their testing program, so we're looking at another hundred properties across the state that we'll continue to test. The program continues to get better and better, and we've seen great results from the testing
initiative, again, another piece of our helping to eliminate discrimination.

Then the things David wanted to make sure that we mention, some of the caps, recaps.

Again, 70 percent of our complaints have --
they're race based, 31 percent was disability, and 13 percentage was sex. Seventy-five percent of our complaints were employment, and 15 percent housing, and three percent education.

Still we're getting more into -- you'll see us hopefully this year, with the trainings and things like that, focus more on some of the credit pieces, because we're not that strong on that, but we want to look at that, and then we will really have a better focus and partnership on the education piece as well going into 2024.

I'll let David talk more on the housing, the bills that just -- that haven't been signed yet, but those will be coming in place. I'll let him do that at the next meeting.

Questions for me?
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Any Commissioners
have any questions?

just checking if there is anyone on -- that's on-line that had a question.

MR. WILSON: Do you want to leave it on their where he can just communicate it?

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: That's fine, if
that's okay for you to take notes.

THE REPORTER: Yeah, I can take down
what he says.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. That's fine.

MR. WILSON: Okay. All right.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Yeah, that's
fine. I roll with technical issues.
(Laughter.)
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: It might actually
be easier to just have like a person relay it instead of all of us trying to hear. Okay. We're just going to have you relay things.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Oh, you're going to
have me relay things? Okay.
MR. WILSON: Well, it is on?

MR. LOSTUTTER: Let's try.
Christiana, can you hear me?

MS. AFUWAPE: Yes, we can hear you.
MR. WILSON: Okay. There we go.
MR. LOSTUTTER: There we go.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: All right.
Fantastic.
All right. Are there any questions from Commissioners that are on-line, questions for Director Wilson?

COMM. HARRINGTON: No questions.
MR. LOSTUTTER: No questions.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you.
All right. Well, we'll -- is there a problem? Okay. Well, we'll go ahead and we'll keep going. We will begin our Old Business. The first case is Melvin Lipscomb versus Meijer, Case PAra23040381, and $I$ believe we have an oral argument today.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Yes.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Do we have both parties present?

MR. LOSTUTTER: We have, I believe, the Complainant present there, but $I$ do not see the Respondent present.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.

So, Comm. Tolliver, this case was assigned to you. Since we only have one available, we can give you five minutes to share, and then we will move from there. If you'd like to begin, you may.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Okay. Well, good afternoon, Commission, to the Docket Clerk, and I don't see anyone in the gallery, so -- and to you, Director, is it?

MR. WILSON: Yes.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Yes.

I'll begin like this: After looking at some of the statutes and the IC Codes governing the Commission, after the Clerk sent me some information finally, after talking with attorneys about this case and the Commission refusing to furnish me with the videos, copies of -- with visual copies of the videos you largely based your decision on, of me being in the wrong because of my reaction to Meijer's discriminatory practices and intimidation and illegal detaining me and causing public embarrassment to me.

First and foremost is, according to the attorneys, grounds for allowing me to file my complaint in Federal Court. This video was requested by me several times, to no avail, which is the Commission's error and violation of discovery rules, procedure of law, states the attorneys.

I ask that this matter be remanded for further investigation. However, most fairly, be reversed in that the IC Code states the promotion of racial segregation or separation in any manner, including but not limited to inducing of or attempting to induce for profit any person to sell or rent any dwelling, representation regarding entry, and prospective entry in neighborhoods of a person or persons.

Then $I$ go to public accommodation, it says this: Public accommodation means any establishment that caters or offers its services or facility of goods to the general public. Complaint means an individual charging the individuals on behalf that have been personally aggrieved by a discriminatory practice.

Or, number two, the Director or Deputy Director of the Commission charging that discriminatory practice was committed against a person other than himself or a class of people. Then it jumps down and talks about the complaint means -- in writing grievances that deals with the complaint itself.

And so, when $I$ turn it over to my own footnotes, I noted that the IC Code overlooked by the Commission the word "aggrieved." That word --

MR. LOSTUTTER: One minute left.

MR. LIPSCOMB: What?
MR. LOSTUTTER: One minute left for you, sir.

MR. LIPSCOMB: That word speaks to the feelings, or feelings that were felt, during the discriminatory practice. That was overlooked by the Commission in coming to their decision in that you did not consider that context in which that word was used.

As a bereavement pastor, $I$ can relate to
that, because when you're bereaved and people
lose their loved ones, their spirit is broken. Well, that's the same thing that happened to me when $I$ was aggrieved by being accused of something, and then being lied to about it, and then not even being able to refute a video that they say proved that --

MR. LOSTUTTER: Time.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: I'll let you
finish your thought real quick.
MR. LIPSCOMB: And that they say that a video proved that $I$ was in the wrong as opposed to them being in the wrong as far as the way they approached me with their allegations.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.

Do any Commissioners have any questions?
COMM. TOLLIVER: I do.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.
COMM. TOLLIVER: Who did you request provide you the video? Who did you ask to give you the video?

MR. LIPSCOMB: I asked the Deputy Clerk on several different occasions, and the Deputy Clerk did send me something that never
would open up. So, after requesting and requesting it, I still never got it. However, he said that the investigating officer was able to see it, but $I$ wasn't able to see it.

And according to the attorneys I talked to, they said that according to procedure rules, I'm supposed to have that discovery to be able to defend against it. So, to this date, I still don't know what they were referring to on this video, or alleged video.

COMM. TOLLIVER: Okay. So, you
received the video, you just couldn't open it?
MR. LIPSCOMB: I'm sorry?
COMM. TOLLIVER: You received a copy of the video, but you could not --

MR. LIPSCOMB: No, I didn't receive a copy of it. You can't say I received a copy of it. I received an e-mail that had an attachment that $I$ couldn't open. I don't know what was in it.

MR. LOSTUTTER: It had the link in it there. I can help here, because I'm the person they made the request of. I asked for them to
resend the link to this video, because that is how the investigator originally viewed it. They sent it. I was not able to get into it either.

I told Mr. Lipscomb that $I$ wasn't having any
luck. I would be more than willing to send it to him, but $I$ didn't believe that he would have any luck in opening it.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Uh-huh.
MR. LOStUTTER: He did not. I made
requests to the people who had sent me the link, "Please send us a code or whatever so that we can actually access it and see, you know, what is on there." I never received any word back from them.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Uh-huh.
MR. LOSTUTTER: And $I$-- all along
the way, $I$ tried to make Mr. Lipscomb aware of that, that $I$ was not having any luck in getting him, or myself, access to that link.

MR. LIPSCOMB: That is correct.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Is -- is the video
still available? Because a lot of times the
videos will roll over - -

MR. LOSTUTTER: I would think at this
point, I'd have to probably make another request for a link to that video. Whether they would still have that video or not, that's -- that's a good question. I don't know.

VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: There would be -they would have had to make a copy of it since it's pending, but it just --

MR. LIPSCOMB: Right.

VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: -- stuff easily
does get erased.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Are there any
further questions by Commissioners?
(No response.)
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: You have one more thing you wanted to add?

MR. LIPSCOMB: Well, yeah, I wanted to follow up to the question that the Commissioner asked. Well, in that case, according to the attorneys, I should have gotten a working copy from the other side as part of my discovery request regardless, and whether it's
working or not now wouldn't be on me as far as any proof to prove anything. It would be on them since they said that they were sending a copy, or they -- that the investigating officer relied on this video to make their decision and/or the Commission itself. Well, I'm entitled to that, according to the attorneys, as rules of procedure.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
Comm. Tolliver --
MS. AFUWAPE: Just to -- sorry. Just
to comment, the investigator received a video during the investigation because of a request from the investigator. Now, it was a link, and I think its time's up, so after a while it's not accessible. I need to check. The case happened a while ago. Now, I can't say about -- for us, we've got provided what we were given, and we were given the link.

Now, if he had no access to the link again, because we have finished our investigation, the link that was sent to us was from the Respondent, and we were able to go
through the link.
Now, we just gave him the link that was provided to us during the investigation. Now, unfortunately, because it's timed -- really timed out, I'm not sure -- I don't know why he was not able to access the link from our investigation during the investigation, as at the time, we were able to open the link from the Respondent that was sent over to the Commission.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you. Briefly.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Well, in that case, Commissioner, if they were sent a link, according to the attorneys, I was supposed to have been copied on whatever they were sent. Whatever it was sent and whenever it was sent, I should have been copied on it.

MS. AFUWAPE: Investigations does not
require for information sent direct to investigator, only requests for evidence from the Respondent, which they got. The Respondent is not entitled to provide any evidence, as the same thing with providing evidence. We only ask
questions. We're only investigating your complaint.

Now, the rules you are talking about, the Commission member is not bound by those rules. You are, however, allowed to go to court if you feel any decision of the Commission is not agreeable to you. You still have recourse, but the rules you're mentioning is not applicable to the Commission meeting.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you, and
thank you for that clarity.
And so, at this time, $I$ think -- do you have any further questions?

COMM. TOLLIVER: I'm just trying to figure out what I'm trying to ask.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.
COMM. TOLLIVER: I do not have a question. I'm just trying to figure out what an appropriate resolution would be.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Yeah.
And I lean to Comm. Tolliver, as this case was assigned to Comm. Tolliver, and he's been keeping the closest with it.

Does any other -- of the other
Commissioners have questions at this point?
(No response.)

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Because at this
point, we will take a recommendation from Comm. Tolliver, and then we will likely take a vote on that recommendation. After we take a vote on that recommendation, if there are further discussions that you'd like to have, you can have it with our Clerk following the meeting today.

MR. LIPSCOMB: You mean I can't address what she just said?

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Well, she was stating procedure, and procedurally in the Commission, the way that our things work through the administrative course, of course, the process being followed is the process. In a standard court, you can have a different recourse is what she was mentioning.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Yes, I understand that, Ms. Commissioner -- or Chair Commissioner. My only thing is they based this -- she used the word "evidence." Well, this video is based on

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incorrect evidence, and I can prove that it was
incorrect by seeing the video, because they're
implying that I was doing certain things in the
video that were not true, and that decision that
you all made was based on what that investigator
said, which was incorrect.
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CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you. Thank you for your statement, and for continuing to color in the lines for us and clarify some things.

COMM. TOLLIVER: So, I think what I would recommend is that we continue this matter to next month's agenda in order to allow the Commission enough time to request the video and send it to Mr. Lipscomb so that he can review it.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. So, you'd like a motion to con -- you're seeking a motion to continue this case to April, pending a request of a working link that can be sent to Mr. Lipscomb?

COMM. TOLLIVER: Correct.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.
Is there a motion?


CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
And you can follow up with our clerk at
the end of the meeting today, and he can give you any question -- any answers that you may need at that point.

MR. LIPSCOMB: Thank you, Chairlady.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
The next case, Jeremy English versus
Brookdale Senior Living, Inc., Case EMha23080644, this case was continued from last month and assigned to Comm. Harrington.

MR. LOSTUTTER: And - -

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: I know she's --

COMM. HARRINGTON: I'm here.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay.
COMM. HARRINGTON: There were -- yes.
There were two issues. We voted on the first issue, and $I$ have questions on the second. I would like to get additional information and confirmation that all of the information has been received, that the complainant, I guess, hadn't -- wasn't aware of that. So, we were able to verify that. And based on that, I recommend
that we uphold the Executive Director's findings of no probable cause on the second issue. CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you. Is there a motion?

COMM. SILBERBERG: So moved. CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.

Is there a second?
COMM. BLACKBURN: I move we accept. CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.

So, we'll --
MR. LOSTUTTER: I think
Comm. Blackburn seconded there.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you very much.

MR. LOSTUTTER: All right. And then
we will call the roll.
Comm. Blackburn?
COMM. BLACKBURN: Blackburn, yes. MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Harrington?

COMM. HARRINGTON: Comm. Harrington, aye.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Silberberg? COMM. SILBERBERG: Aye.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Yes.
MR. PADGETT: Yes, Mike Padgett, with Jackson Lewis. I represent Cort Furniture.
MR. LOSTUTTER: All right.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: If you click on his picture, that might make your other thing --
MR. LOSTUTTER: It might and it might not.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Can you go up to the layout and just put it on the speaker? Yeah. So, one more, and we'll put it on the stack. That'll be fine, yeah.
MR. LOSTUTTER: There we go.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: And it will be possible to hear him. Perfect.
All right. So, the way that it'll go is we will give the Complainant five minutes, then we'll give the Respondent five minutes, then you'll each have two minutes to respond, and then we will have discussion amongst ourselves.
MR. AHERN: Okay. Awesome.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Very good.
MR. LOST I It might andit might not.
And you've got a timer?

MR. LOSTUTTER: Yes.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: All right.
Fantastic.
And Comm. Harrington, you can hear?
COMM. HARRINGTON: Yes, I can.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Wonderful,
because this case was assigned to her.
(Mr. Lipscomb left the room.)
MR. LOSTUTTER: Go ahead.
MR. AHERN: Hello, everybody. Thank you for taking my case.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Oh, pardon me.
If you could speak up, just to make sure that Comm. Harrington can hear you.

MR. AHERN: Of course.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
MR. AHERN: Thank you all for being here today.

I'm sorry. This isn't where $I$ want to be either, but $I$ didn't ask -- initially ask for Wednesdays off as accommodation through Cort. My manager, Nick Simpson, offered it, and I accepted. Only later there was a problem, and he
informed me we have to ask for an accommodation. He also shared with me that it would be just a formality.

At the first HR appointment, phone call, I was told I needed to fill out some paperwork, as well as my doctor. When we went to review said paperwork, they only had the one $I$ filled out, not my doctor's. I was then told only my doctor was to fill it out, and $I$ had to try again. They were very rude about it, and like I did something wrong. This was my first kind of indication that maybe it wasn't being taken as seriously as I thought.

After returning multiple times to my doctor to get the paperwork reviewed, I was put on unpaid leave, and if $I$ wanted to get paid, I'd have to use my vacation time. They then let me go three weeks trying to get the right accommodations from my doctor, all the while saying, "It's not the right one," or "too many restrictions."

On June 3rd I called HR, and they notified me I'd already been terminated, but no one told
me or none of my managers. Nobody informed me of this. I'd already been terminated, but no one told me, so $I$ could have been looking for a new job for three-plus weeks. There is also a discrepancy in termination dates, May $10 t h$ and June 6th. It is the most unprofessional experience I've ever dealt with.

Also, my son was born six months prior to this, and I had just purchased a new house eight months prior. I wouldn't have gone along with the accommodation request had $I$ known it would turn out $I$ lost my job. Also, in the letter they sent me confirming my termination date, they said if $I$ could come back without restrictions, they'd hire me back.

But my disability is a palmoplantar pustulosis. It's an autoimmune disorder, and it's a lifelong disability. They'd hire me back. My disability is an autoimmune disease, and it is a permanently lifelong illness, and $I$ don't think they took this into account, or even cared. Ultimately they said the lifting and climbing restrictions imposed by my doctor were

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why they couldn't accommodate me, even though it
felt like more was at work. And when I asked if
there was another position where I could be
accommodated, they said no, even though they had
just fired somebody in front sales, which I have
tons of sales experience as well, letting me know
how much they didn't want to work with me on my
disability.
            Thank you.
                    CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
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            Timer set?
                            MR. LOSTUTTER: Give me just a second
    here.
(Pause in proceedings.)
MR. LOSTUTTER: All right. Now
start.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.
You may begin.
MR. BARCHET: I'm not the attorney
for this.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Oh, who's the
attorney?
MR. LOSTUTTER: It's the --

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Oh, yeah.
MR. LOSTUTTER: -- gentleman up
there.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Up there; okay.
My bad.

MR. PADGETT: Are you ready for me?
MR. LOSTUTTER: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Yes, we are.

MR. PADGETT: Okay. Thank you.
Again, my name's Mike Padgett. I'm with the law firm Jackson Lewis here in Indianapolis, and I represent the Respondent, Cort Furniture Rental, in this case. I'll be brief.

As noted by Mr. Ahern, that the issue here concerned medical restrictions placed on him by his physician and his ability to perform his position with Cort. Mr. Ahern was employed as a delivery assistant, which is a very physically demanding job. It's driving around on a truck delivering furniture.
(Mr. Lipscomb returned.)
MR. PADGETT: It requires significant heavy lifting, sitting, bending, twisting, you
know, all of those sorts of things that go along with a very, very physical job. As he said, issues came up. He was asked to get medical certification, which is certainly appropriate under the appropriate laws here, and he was given several opportunities, as he noted, to provide medical certification.

And each one of those certifications provided essentially restricted Mr. Ahern out of a job. In other words, you could take the job description that we've attached to our position statement filed with the Commission, you could compare it to the restrictions placed on Mr. Ahern by his physician, and you can quickly see that his physician is not of the opinion that he can perform the essential functions of his delivery assistant position.

As a result, he was not able to be accommodated, and ultimately, yes, his employment ended, with the notation, as Mr. Ahern states, that, you know, to the extent those restrictions were to change, they would certainly consider bringing him back to work. It is my
understanding from the medical certification that these are permanent restrictions, so perhaps that's not a possibility.

But in essence, as I say, Mr. Ahern and
his physician restricted him out of a position, and he simply cannot perform the essential
functions of the job with those permanent restrictions.

With that, I'll answer any questions. CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.

First and foremost, we have a two-minute ability if you'd like to share anything further --

MR. AHERN: I would.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: -- in response to what he stated.

MR. AHERN: My doctor asked for HR's phone number so she could call and ask them some questions. The paperwork was very convoluted, and the way it was set up -- like "How many hours can you do this?" "How many hours can you be bending, lifting, sitting, standing?"

And my argument was: I'm never going to
be walking up stairs constantly for three hours; you know what $I$ mean? You go up the stairs, that takes 15 seconds. Even if I do that 20 times, that's a few minutes of walking up and down stairs. And they seemed to think that that hour of lifting is like -- it just seemed very -- like when $I$ started to argue each point of the restrictions, they didn't want to hear it any further.

And also, my doctor brought up the fact that the paperwork works in their favor. It's tipped -- it's pretty much a test with no right answers and could be made to look however they want. And yes, it was --

MR. LOSTUTTER: One minute.
MR. AHERN: -- very restrictive, but like I said, $I$ could argue each point of the job as being -- me still being able to fulfill my position. However, they did -- they did not see it that way.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
Would you like to add anything? You have two minutes as well.

| 1 | MR. PADGETT: I would just again note |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | that the job description placed next to the |
| 3 | medical certifications provided by Mr. Ahern's |
| 4 | physician clearly shows that he couldn't perform |
| 5 | the essential functions of the job. |
| 6 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you. That |
| 7 | concludes the oral argument component. |
| 8 | Comm. Harrington, I'll let you begin with |
| 9 | a question, and then I'll move to the remaining |
| 10 | Commissioners. |
| 11 | (No response.) |
| 12 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Comm. Harrington, |
| 13 | do you have any questions? |
| 14 | COMM. HARRINGTON: No, I don't -- |
| 15 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you. |
| 16 | COMM. HARRINGTON: -- no. |
| 17 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Commissioners, do |
| 18 | you have any questions? |
| 19 | COMM. TOLLIVER: I do not. |
| 20 | COMM. BLACKBURN: No. |
| 21 | COMM. HARRINGTON: This is |
| 22 | Comm. Harrington. No, I don't. |
| 23 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you. |

Comm. Harrington, do you have a recommendation, as this case was assigned to you?

COMM. HARRINGTON: I recommend that we -- on both issues, that we uphold --

THE REPORTER: Louder.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Can you speak a
little louder, please?
COMM. HARRINGTON: Can you hear me?
MR. LOSTUTTER: Just a little louder.
COMM. HARRINGTON: On both -- on both
issues, I recommend we uphold the Executive Director's finding of no probable cause.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
The recommendation over the phone was that on both issues, Comm. Harrington recommends that we uphold the Deputy Director's finding of no probable cause. Now we'll require a motion and a second.

VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Comm. Blackburn.
MR. LOStUTTER: Comm. Blackburn, were you motioning, making a motion?

COMM. BLACKBURN: Yes, I move we accept the recommendation.

| 1 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. There's a |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | motion. Is there a second? |
| 3 | COMM. TOLLIVER: Second. |
| 4 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. There's a |
| 5 | motion and a second. |
| 6 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay. Now we will |
| 7 | call the roll. |
| 8 | Comm. Blackburn? |
| 9 | COMM. BLACKBURN: Blackburn, aye. |
| 10 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Harrington? |
| 11 | COMM. HARRINGTON: Aye. |
| 12 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Silberberg? |
| 13 | COMM. SILBERBERG: Aye. |
| 14 | MR. LOStutter: Comm. Tolliver? |
| 15 | COMM. TOLLIVER: Aye. |
| 16 | MR. LOStutter: Vice-Chair Ramos? |
| 17 | VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Aye. |
| 18 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Chair Slash? |
| 19 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Aye. |
| 20 | MR. LOSTUTTER: The ayes have it, six |
| 21 | to nothing. |
| 22 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you for |
| 23 | coming in, thank you for joining us on line. |

The next case, Cary Lynch versus New Albany Housing Authority, Case HOra23090727. This case has -- the Complainant has requested a continuance to next month, and so, that $I$ granted just prior to today's hearing, so we will see that case next month, and that case was assigned to Comm. Tolliver.

So, in our New Business, $I$ have quite a few cases to assign, and as Commissioners will notice, many of them are requesting oral argument, so please take note of your case as assigned. The first case, Joseph Mark -- Maher versus Charlestown LLC \& Freeman Development Corporation, Case HOse23080674, that case, Comm. Ramos. I've got to make myself a little note.

Okay. Ash -- the next case, Ashleigh Foster versus Hamilton National Title LLC, D/B/A Near North Title Group, Case EMra22100624, I'll assign that one to myself. The next case, Gary McElfresh versus Continental [sic] of Cedar Lake Townhomes Association, Inc., Case HOre23110909, Comm. Silberberg. The next case, Carly

Vanarsdall versus LD 303 Associates LP, Van Rooy Properties, \& The Washington, Case HOha23110912, that case will be assigned to Comm. Tolliver. The next case, Jeffrey House versus G. W. Berkheimer Company, Inc., Case EMha23030248, Comm. Harrington.

Comm. Blackburn, would you like a case? COMM. HARRINGTON: Could you hear me say "Aye"?

MR. LOSTUTTER: There's no need to "aye," unless you're just saying "aye" agreeing to the case being assigned to you.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: We're assigning at the moment.

Comm. Blackburn, would you like a case?
COMM. BLACKBURN: No.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Thank you. COMM. HARRINGTON: I'm accepting the case.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Toniann -- the
next case is Toniann Alvarado versus Hoosier
Staffers, LLC, Case EMra22080471, Vice-Chair

Ramos. And the last one, Vicky Newman versus Tenneco Automotive Operating Company, Inc., Case EMha23070622, I'll assign that one to myself. Thank you.

Commissioners, please note if your case
has a requested oral argument, and all of the cases that have requested oral arguments, so we can all do our due diligence to come prepared.

The next section, we have Motions and Other Filings. The first one is Deborah Weidner on behalf of Minor Child BNF versus Saint Michael Catholic Church, Brookville, Inc. d/b/a Saint Michael Catholic School. It's an appeal of a motion to dismiss and motion for oral argument in Case EDse23110848.

Respondent is appealing the Chairperson of the Commission of the ICRC's denial of the Respondent's motion to dismiss and -- the claim of the Complainant, and asks that its request for oral argument to be allowed.

In response, the ICRC, by its Deputy Director and General Counsel, submits an Amicus Curiae Brief to provide additional -- to provide
additional information for consideration on the motion in support of the Chair's decision regarding the Respondent's original motion.

And so, with that move, we are continuing to deny that request to stop the investigative process is essentially where we are, in case anyone had questions. This case is very similar to other education cases that have been asking us to stop at the investigative phase before we know if there's a case or not.

So, the next one, we have Review of ALJ's Decisions and Orders. Some will require a motion and votes. The first one, ICRC versus -- I'm sorry -- ICRC/Lanita Goins versus Spicewood Garden Apartment II, LP, Herron Property Management, and Hand, Inc., Case HOra23080663.

The Administrative Law Judge in this matter took under consideration the Respondent's request to move this matter out of the administrative forum, a request made on February 13th, 2024 . Since the parties are not in agreement to have the claims decided in a court of law, the notice is granted in part and

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denied in part, with the complaint of
discrimination under the IFHA against the
Respondent dismissed with prejudice.
910 IAC 2-7-9(a).
    The notice is not effective in moving the
complaint out of discrimination -- moving the
complaint of discrimination under the ICRL out of
the administrative forum, which will result in a
bifurcation of these proceedings and will be
addressed at the initial prehearing conference
with the parties to determine their intent before
a final dismissal is issued.
    Is there a motion to affirm?
        VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: So moved.
        CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Is there a
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second?
COMM. SILBERBERG: Second.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
MR. LOSTUTTER: We will call the
roll.

Comm. Blackburn?
(No response.)
MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Blackburn, are

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you still with us?
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COMM. BLACKBURN: I'm still here.
You can't hear me.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay. Are you voting
aye or --
COMM. BLACKBURN: Yes.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay.
COMM. BLACKBURN: Blackburn, aye.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Harrington?
COMM. HARRINGTON: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Silberberg?
COMM. SILBERBERG: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Tolliver?

COMM. TOLLIVER: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Vice-Chair Ramos?
VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Chair Slash?

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: The ayes have it, six
to nothing.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
ICRC/Kristi Barajas? Is that --

MR. LOSTUTTER: Barajas.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Versus
Tina Harlow, Pedcor Investments-2004-LXIII -also known as a Roman numeral -- LP and Pedcor Property Management Corporation, Case HOha23090714.

The Administrative Law Judge in this matter took under consideration the Respondent's request to move this matter out of the administrative forum, a request made on February 15th, 2024 . Since the parties are not in agreement to have the claims decided in a court of law, the notice is granted in part and denied in part, with the complaint of discrimination under the IFHA against the Respondent dismissed with prejudice. 910 IAC 2-7-9 (a).

The notice is not effective in moving the complaint of discrimination under the ICRL out of the administrative forum, which will result in a bifurcation of these proceedings and will be addressed in the initial prehearing conference with the parties to determine the intent -- their

| 1 | intent before a final dismissal is issued. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | This -- the objection period in this matter has |
| 3 | closed. |
| 4 | Is there a motion to affirm? |
| 5 | COMM. TOLLIVER: So moved. |
| 6 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you. |
| 7 | Second? |
| 8 | VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Second. |
| 9 | COMM. SILBERBERG: Second. |
| 10 | CHAIRPERSON SLASH: That's fine. |
| 11 | MR. LOStutter: We will call the |
| 12 | roll. |
| 13 | Comm. Blackburn? |
| 14 | COMM. BLACKBURN: Blackburn, aye. |
| 15 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Harrington? |
| 16 | COMM. HARRINGTON: Aye. |
| 17 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Silberberg? |
| 18 | COMM. SILBERBERG: Aye. |
| 19 | MR. LOStutter: Comm. Tolliver? |
| 20 | COMM. TOLLIVER: Aye. |
| 21 | MR. LOSTUTTER: Vice-Chair Ramos? |
| 22 | VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Aye. |
| 23 | MR. LOStutter: Chair Slash? |

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: The ayes have it, six to nothing.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
The next case, ICRC/Ann Marie Leichentritt versus Meritus Housing LLC, Yes! Communities, and McAvon Lakes Property, LLC, Case HOha23100762.

The Administrative Law Judge in this matter took under consideration the Respondent's request to move this matter out of the administrative forum, a request made on February 19th, 2024. Since the parties are not in agreement to have the claims decided in a court of law, the notice is granted in part and denied in part, with the complaint of discrimination under the IFHA against the Respondent dismissed with prejudice. Case 910 -or sorry -- 910 IAC 2-7-9(a).

The notice is not effective in moving the complaint of discrimination under the ICRL out of the administrative forum, which will result in a bifurcation of these proceedings and will be addressed in the initial prehearing conference
with the parties to determine their intent before
a dismissal is issued. The objection period in this case has -- or I'm sorry -- in this matter has closed.

Is there a motion to affirm?
COMM. TOLLIVER: So moved.
VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Second.
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Thank you.
Motion was Comm. Tolliver, second was Vice-Chair Ramos.

MR. LOSTUTTER: All right. Then we will call the roll.

Comm. Blackburn?
COMM. BLACKBURN: Blackburn, aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Harrington?
COMM. HARRINGTON: Comm. Harrington, aye.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Silberberg?
COMM. SILBERBERG: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Comm. Tolliver?
COMM. TOLLIVER: Aye.
MR. LOSTUTTER: Vice-Chair Ramos?
VICE-CHAIR RAMOS: Aye.

MR. LOSTUTTER: Chair Slash?

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Aye.

MR. LOSTUTTER: The ayes have it, six to nothing.

CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. The last one of this set, Shanita Redd, on behalf of Minor Child M.R. versus Parkview Behavioral Health, Case PAra21080328.

On April 28th, 2023, the Complainant, by private counsel, filed a complaint against Respondent and others in the United States District Court for the Northern District Of Indiana, Case No. 1.23-CV-00179, based on the same issues before the ICRC in Complainant's August 2021 complaint.

Complainant, by ICRC Staff Attorney Fred Bremer, moved to dismiss the complaint filed in this matter, as Indiana Code Section 22-9-1-6(q) states that the minute a complaint becomes a subject of an action in a federal court, all actions shall immediately cease. The Administrative Law Judge grants the Complainant's motion and dismisses the complaint with
prejudice. 910 IAC $1-3-6$. The objection period in this matter has not closed and no decision on this matter is due at this time. We'll see this case next month.

The next case $I$ will read into the record. No vote is required. It's a final decision from the ALJ, and that is Case -- the case is Rachel Morgan versus Shopper's World, Case PAha23020150.

Okay. And that concludes our Motions and Other Filings, which brings us to meeting dates. Up next we have April 15th, also known as Tax Day. Anyone have any concerns with making it here on the 15 th of April?

MR. LOSTUTTER: I know that last
month the Chair said that she was a little
nervous about --
CHAIRPERSON SLASH: I'm not
necessarily positive that $I$ will be here, but if others don't have concerns, then that means that Vice-Chair Ramos can probably steer the ship just fine. It's five days after my 40 th birthday, so, you know, I don't know. I may go somewhere sunny. I don't know. But if the 15 th is okay, I

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suggest that we just start paying attention to
the 20th of May, as May in Indiana sometimes is a
little difficult for some people. So, let's keep
an eye on May the 20th.
                            MR. LOSTUTTER: Okay.
                            CHAIRPERSON SLASH: But we should be
    clear of any holiday weekends and travel.
    And I -- seeing no Elections, Trainings or
    Others, do we have any announcements today?
                        (No response.)
                            CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay. Any -- any
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        public comment listed before we got here today?
                        (No response.)
            CHAIRPERSON SLASH: Okay.
            MR. LOSTUTTER: Not that I'm aware
        of.
            CHAIRPERSON SLASH: With that in
        mind, it's 2:03 p.m., and this meeting is
        adjourned.
                        - - -
        Thereupon, the proceedings of
        March 18, 2024 were concluded
        at 2:03 o'clock p.m.
            - - -
    

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