## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by

FINAL DECISION

Barry Natale,

Complainant

against

Docket #FIC 2016-0404

Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans' Affairs; and State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans' Affairs,

Respondents

April 12, 2017

The above-captioned matter was heard as a contested case on September 16, 2016, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint. This matter was consolidated for hearing with Docket #FIC 2016-0402, Barry Natale v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans' Affairs, et al., and Docket #FIC 2016-0403, Barry Natale v. Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans' Affairs, et al.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found and conclusions of law are reached:

- 1. The respondents are public agencies, within the meaning of §1-200(1), G.S.
- 2. By letter of complaint filed May 26, 2016, the complainant appealed to the Commission, alleging that the respondents violated the Freedom of Information ("FOI") Act by denying him certified copies of certain public records.
- 3. It is found that, by email dated May 10, 2016, the complainant requested certified copies of the following records:

[a]ny and all documents of any type that were created as a result of my March 28<sup>th</sup> request that Ms.Gaddy reopen her investigation into the circumstances of my application for the Clerk Typist position with the CT DVA Office of Advocacy and Assistance.

- 4. It is found that the respondents have no records responsive to the complainant's request, other than an email chain between the complainant and the respondents, initiated by the complainant's request that his affirmative action complaint be reopened.
  - 5. It is found that the complainant already has, and was not requesting, that email chain.

6. It is therefore concluded that the respondents did not violate the FOI Act as alleged.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above-captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is dismissed.

Approved by Order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of April 12, 2017.

Cynthia A. Cannata

Acting Clerk of the Commission

PURSUANT TO SECTION 4-180(c), G.S., THE FOLLOWING ARE THE NAMES OF EACH PARTY AND THE MOST RECENT MAILING ADDRESS, PROVIDED TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION, OF THE PARTIES OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE.

## THE PARTIES TO THIS CONTESTED CASE ARE:

Barry Natale 2 Farm House Lane Norwalk, CT 06851

Commissioner, State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans' Affairs; and State of Connecticut, Department of Veterans' Affairs Tanya DeMattia, Esq.
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Cynthia A. Cannata

Acting Clerk of the Commission

FIC/2016-0404/FD/cac/4/12/2017