

B-001

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

OF THE

In the Matter of S.B., Correctional Police Officer (S9988A), Department of Corrections

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

CSC Docket No. 2020-1923

Medical Review Panel Appeal

ISSUED: OCTOBER 2, 2020 (BS)

S.B. appeals his rejection as a Correctional Police Officer¹ candidate by the Department of Corrections and its request to remove his name from the eligible list for Correctional Police Officer (S998A) on the basis of psychological unfitness to perform effectively the duties of the position.

This appeal was brought before the Medical Review Panel on July 31, 2020, which rendered its report and recommendation on August 2, 2020. No exceptions were filed by the parties.

The report by the Medical Review Panel discusses all submitted evaluations. The test results and procedures and the behavioral record, when viewed in light of the Job Specification for Correctional Police Officer indicate that the applicant is psychologically fit to perform effectively the duties of the position sought, and therefore, the action of the hiring authority should not be upheld. Accordingly, the Panel recommended that the candidate be restored to the eligible list.

CONCLUSION

Having considered the record and the Medical Review Panel's Report and Recommendation issued thereon, and having made an independent evaluation of same, the Civil Service Commission accepted and adopted the findings and conclusions as contained in the Medical Review Panel's Report and Recommendation.

 $^{^1}$ Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 11A:2-11.1, effective May 1, 2018, the title of Correction Officer Recruit has been retitled Correctional Police Officer.

ORDER

The Civil Service Commission finds that the appointing authority has not met its burden of proof that S.B. is psychologically unfit to perform effectively the duties of a Correctional Police Officer and, therefore, the Commission orders that his name be restored to the subject eligible list. Absent any disqualification issue ascertained through an updated background check conducted after a conditional offer of appointment, the appellant's appointment is otherwise mandated. A federal law, the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), 42 U.S.C.A. §12112(d)(3), expressly requires that a job offer be made before any individual is required to submit to a medical or psychological examination. See also the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's ADA Enforcement Guidelines: Preemployment Disability Related Questions and Medical Examination (October 10, 1995). That offer having been made, it is clear that, absent the erroneous disqualification, the aggrieved individual would have been employed in the position.

Since the appointing authority has not supported its burden of proof, upon the successful completion of his working test period, the Commission orders that appellant be granted a retroactive date of appointment to July 18, 2020, the date he would have been appointed if his name had not been removed from the subject eligible list. This date is for salary step placement and seniority-based purposes only. However, the Commission does not grant any other relief, such as back pay or counsel fees, except the relief enumerated above.

This is the final administrative determination in this matter. Any further review should be pursued in a judicial forum.

DECISION RENDERED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION ON THE 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020

Derrare' L. Webster Calib

Deirdré L. Webster Cobb

Chairperson

Civil Service Commission

Inquiries Christopher S. Myers

and Director

Correspondence: Division of Appeals

and Regulatory Affairs Civil Service Commission Written Record Appeals Unit PO Box 312 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0312

c: S.B. Veronica Tingle Kelly Glenn