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In the Matter of Carmine Morelli and Jeffrey Waller, Law Enforcement Series (S9999R), Statewide

CSC Docket Nos. 2014-2657 and 2014-2916

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION
OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Examination Appeals

ISSUED:

FEB 0 9 2015

(SLK)

Carmine Morelli and Jeffrey Waller request that they be permitted to submit the application fee for the open-competitive examination for Law Enforcement Series (S9999R), Statewide. These requests have been consolidated due to common issues presented.

The subject examination was announced with a closing date of September 4, 2013 and required, among other things, the payment of an application processing fee.

When the appellants applied for the subject examination online, they both indicated that they each were going to submit the application fee by either check or money order. However, the Division of Selection Services¹ (Selection Services) never received payment from either candidate. As such, it sent the appellants an email² advising that it did not receive their payments. Mr. Morelli took the subject examination on November 16, 2013 and Mr. Waller took the exam on December 5, 2013. On May 1, 2014, Selection Services again advised the appellants that it did not receive their payments.

In his petition to the Civil Service Commission (Commission), Mr. Morelli provides a signed affidavit explaining that he was not aware that the Commission did not receive his payment via the internet. He presents that he first learned that his payment was not received on May 1, 2014 and that he did not realize that he

¹ This function is now part of the Division of Agency Services.

² Mr. Morelli was sent an email on September 30, 2013 and Mr. Waller was sent an email on August 29, 2013.

checked the manual payment option when he applied online. Mr. Morelli provides that when he filled out the application online, he entered his father's credit card information and then he mistakenly checked the wrong payment method. He maintains that he had never previously paid for anything online and therefore was unfamiliar with the process. Mr. Morelli contends that he never received the email from Selection Services informing him that it did not receive his payment and he thinks that it must have gone into his spam folder which he automatically deletes. He asserts that if he had received a notice that he did not make payment, he would have immediately paid it and he reiterates that he thought that he paid for the application by credit card at the time he submitted his application.

Mr. Waller submits a signed affidavit that he paid for the subject examination in advance using a prepaid credit card that was purchased for that specific reason. He maintains that at the time that he took the exam, no one informed him that his payment was not received. Mr. Waller contends that he never received an email from Selection Services, although he states that he lost his phone and did not have access to a computer around that time the email was sent. He reiterates that it is his intention to pay for the exam and receive his results.

CONCLUSION

N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.17 provides that a processing fee shall be charged for each examination application and that applications without a fee shall not be processed unless the applicant submits, within the time required by written notice from the Commission, the required fee. N.J.A.C. 4A:1-1.2(c) states that the Commission may relax a rule for good cause in order to effectuate the purposes of Title 11A, New Jersey Statutes.

In these matters, both appellants provided affidavits attesting that they each thought that they had made their payment for the subject examination when they submitted their online applications and they never received Selection Services' initial email notice indicating that it had not received their payments. Further, both appellants were allowed to sit for the subject examination without having made payment. Finally, both appellants state that they will submit the requested application fee if this request is granted. Therefore, under these circumstances, the Commission finds good cause to permit the appellants to make payment and to receive their examination results.

ORDER

Therefore, it is ordered that these requests be granted. Mr. Morelli and Mr. Waller shall make their respective appropriate payment to the Division of Agency Services for their examinations within 30 days of the issue date on this decision. Upon receipt of payment, the petitioners shall be notified of their scores. Should an appellant achieve a passing score, his name should be added to the subject list for

prospective employment opportunities only. If the appellants fail to submit the required payment within 30 days of the issue date on this decision, they will not be entitled to have their examinations scored or their results released.

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 4th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2015

Robert M. Czech Chairperson

Civil Service Commission

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