

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

In the Matter of Kevin Goins, Police Sergeant (PM0895V), Woodbridge	: FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE : ACTION : OF THE : CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION :
CSC Docket No. 2018-469	Examination Appeal

ISSUED: June 7, 2018 (JH)

Kevin Goins requests that he be permitted to submit an application for the promotional examination for Police Sergeant (PM0895V), Woodbridge, after the application filing deadline.

By way of background, the announcement for the subject examination was issued on July 1, 2017 with an application filing deadline of July 21, 2017 and all on-line applications had to have been received by that date. It is noted the subject test was administered on October 28, 2017.

On appeal, Goins argues that he was on vacation from July 1 through July 17, 2017 and "returned back to work on July 17th through July 18th to over 880 work related emails/traxs messages. On July 20 I had another Detective cover my shift and was off until July 25th. Inquiring about the S[ergeant] test it was brought to my attention that the application was sent through email which I never acknowledged receiving. It is physically impossible to review, respond to 880 work related emails while actively working my duties as a detective, conducting surveillance for a sexual assault suspect at the Woodbridge train station over the course of my 3 days of work." In support of his appeal, he provides additional documentation including an email sent August 3, 2017 from the Division of Agency Services to Woodbridge requesting clarifying information regarding the appellant's days off in July 2017.¹

¹ Pursuant to the appellant's schedule provided by Woodbridge in the email, the appellant reported for work on July 17, 18 and 19, 2017.

It is noted that the appointing authority was contacted regarding this matter and did not provide any additional information.

CONCLUSION

Prior to July 17, 2017, N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.1(e) provided, in part, that applications for promotional examinations shall be filed no later than 11:59 p.m. on the announced filing date. However, effective July 17, 2017, N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.1(e) was amended to substitute "4:00 p.m." for "11:59 p.m." N.J.A.C. 4A:4-6.3(b) provides that the appellant in an examination appeal shall have the burden of proof.

In the present matter, although the appellant contends that he had "over 880 work related emails/traxs messages" upon his return to work, he does not claim that he did not receive an email regarding the subject exam prior to the July 21, 2017 application filing deadline. See N.J.A.C. 4A:4-2.1(b). While the appellant asserts that he found it impossible to both review his emails and attend to his duties upon his return to work, it is ultimately the responsibility of the candidate to review his or her email messages for important information. See In the Matter of Robin Cristi and Jennie Ramos, Police Sergeant (PM2041V), Jersey City (CSC, decided May 23, 2018).

ORDER

Therefore, it is ordered that this request be denied.

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 6TH DAY OF JUNE, 2018

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