MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING Between

The School District of Palm Beach County (District) And

The Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association (PBA)

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into between The School District of Palm Beach County, Florida (the "District") and The Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association, Inc., (PBA) on this <u>7th</u> of June, 2023 (date of ratification by the Board). The District and the PBA shall be collectively referred to as "the Parties."

WHEREAS, the District and the PBA are Parties to a Collective Bargaining Agreement with a duration of January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2023;

WHEREAS, the CBA was modified in 2022 and is subject to further modifications through reopener negotiations in 2023;

WHEREAS, the District requested and the PBA agrees to amend the Collective Bargaining Agreement to facilitate the restoration of the status quo rank structure in compliance with the Final Order in the Unfair Labor Practice between the District and the PBA (Case Number 2020-044), attached hereto, to ease the 2023 provision of a promotional examination for the rank of sergeant, and to ensure sufficient first-line supervision/coverage;

THEREFORE, the District and the PBA agree to amend Article 20 (Salary Plan), including changes to Article 20.10 (Sergeant's Special Duty Assignment), as follows based on the red language below¹:

ARTICLE 20 - SALARY PLAN

20.10 - SERGEANT'S SPECIAL DUTY ASSIGNMENT

The following procedures will be followed should there be a need to assign an Officer to fill the supplemental Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant pursuant to Article 20.3 of this Agreement.

a. Qualifications

- 1. At least three (3) years of continuous law enforcement service with the District prior to the initial date of taking the examination. The Parties agree that effective January 1, 2024, the requirement of years of continuous law enforcement service with the District shall revert to five (5) years. Employees who separate from employment with the Police Department and thereafter return to the employment may not bridge seniority.
- 2. No record of two or more written reprimands, suspension, or demotion within the previous two (2) years with the District.

¹ Once ratified, these modifications are including and in addition to all other ratified modifications to Article 20, including those modifications made as a result of 2023 re-openers. All modifications made as a result of this MOU and re-openers should be treated as part of the governing CBA.

- 3. At a minimum, the applicant must complete a CJSTC-approved "Line Supervision" course within six (6) months of becoming a Sergeant. This course must be taught by a certified instructor.
- 4. At a minimum, the applicant must have either of the following requirements verified prior to sitting for the exam:
 - Obtained a conferred Associates Degree in a related Criminal Justice field or successfully completed at least sixty (60) semester hours at an accredited College or University. An applicant may substitute up to a maximum of thirty (30) of the sixty (60) semester hours with Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to meet the educational requirements, where one (1) CEU is equal to one (1) semester hour.

OR

- Completed at least two (2) years of active military service in one of the branches of the United States Armed Forces and received an honorable discharge.
- 4. Must have and maintain a valid FDLE certification.
- 5. Must have and maintain a valid Florida driver's license.

b. Examination and Oral Interview

- 1. An Officer meeting and maintaining the above listed qualifications is eligible to sit for a promotional examination when it is next administered. The testing location and date will be announced at least forty-five (45) calendar days prior to the testing date. The District will provide a list of the areas that the examination will cover and will also provide a list of the resources from which the examination was drawn. For this purpose, the District will only use job related promotional examinations.
- 2. Those receiving a score of at least 80% on the examination will be considered to "candidates" for the Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant.
- 3. A candidate maintains his/her eligibility to interview for the Supplemental Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant for up to 24 months from the date he/she was most recently considered to be a candidate. Thereafter, an Officer must sit for an examination and receive a score of at least 80% to continue to be a candidate or to become a candidate again should the 24-month period expire before the Officer had the opportunity to take an exam again.
- 4. When there is a need to assign an Officer to fill the supplemental Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant as determined by the Chief of Police, the supplemental position will be advertised internally and candidates at that time who wish to interview may do so before an oral interview panel comprised of sworn personnel selected by the Chief of Police. The oral interview panel will remain comprised of the same members for that

- interview/testing cycle and will score the candidates who participate in these oral interviews from highest to lowest.
- 5. The oral interview will consist of objective, job-related interview questions.
- 6. The total score will be comprised of both an interview (1/3) and test score (2/3).

c. Selection Process:

- 1. The Chief of Police may delay naming a candidate to assume the responsibilities of the supplemental Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant with respect to any candidate who is the subject of an active criminal or internal investigation.
- 2. After reviewing the most recent examination scores of the candidates who interviewed and the ranking of the oral interview panel and other considerations, at his/her discretion, the Chief of Police will make the selection and this decision is final and not appealable. The Chief has the discretion to pass over up to ten (10) percent of the list for that cycle.
- 3. The District agrees to hold a promotional examination in 2023.
- 4. Those unit members who hold the title of Detective Supervisor, Detective Sergeant, Acting Sergeant, or any other similar classification, and who serve as a first-line supervisor as of May 23, 2023, may continue to serve in such capacity (with no break in such service) as sergeant only until the 2023 promotional examination is held and the Chief of Police names sergeants from the ranked list of candidates.
- 5. The Chief of Police must hold the promotional examination, oral interview panel, and make his/her selections for sergeant by October 1, 2023.
- 6. For those unit members who held the title of Detective Supervisor on the date of May 23, 2023, who continue to work as first-line supervisor through the date of the 2023 promotional examination and the date of the Chief of Police's sergeant selections, who qualify and sit for the 2023 promotional examination and are considered "candidates" under subsection (b) above, and who participate in the oral interview panel, the Chief of Police may prioritize these unit members for selection as sergeants. In that regard, the Chief of Police may select such persons for sergeant, regardless of those persons ranking on the 2023 cycle list and/or ranking outside of the top ten (10) percent of the cycle list.
- 7. After the 2023 sergeant selections, the District will continue to ensure restoration of the status quo rank structure, as described in the Final Order of PERC Case Number CA 2020-044 (attached). All persons previously serving as Detective Supervisors, Detective Sergeants, Acting Sergeants, and/or other similar rank titles for first-line supervisor will cease such duties and will no longer receive any related benefits.
- 8. Following the 2023 sergeant selections, subsections 3 through 8 of this section will be null and void.

d. Other Regulations

1. Officers who are candidates may withdraw their candidacy from consideration at any time.

- 2. A candidate who no longer meets the eligibility requirements will no longer be considered to be a candidate.
- 3. A candidate is no longer a candidate should his/her employment with the District end.
- 4. A candidate will no longer be considered to be a candidate should he/she be found to be involved with criminal activity or administrative misconduct.
- 5. An Officer selected to assume the responsibility of the supplemental Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant serves in this Assignment for as long as the Chief of Police wishes that Officer to remain in that Special Duty Assignment or until the Officer elects to step out of that assignment by submitting a letter to the Chief of Police stating same.
- 6. An Officer being relieved of this supplemental Special Duty Assignment of Sergeant either the Chief of Police or by his/her own choosing, will no longer have those responsibilities and will no longer be eligible to receive the supplemental pay and the take-home vehicle per Article 20.3 above.

. . . .

[EXECUTION PAGE TO FOLLOW]

The District and the PBA agree further:

- 1. That the agreed upon changes to the aforementioned Article shall appear in Article 20 without modifying any other existing subsections or Articles (outside of those separately-ratified modifications);
- 2. That this Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective following ratification of this MOU by the employees and the District.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the Parties have caused this Memorandum of Understanding to be signed by their duly authorized representatives on the 25 day of May, 2023.

For the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association, Inc.	
Date: <u>6/25/23</u>	-
John Karanjian, President	
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Katie Mendoza, Legal Counsel	Katin & Muyn
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For the School District of Palm Beac	h County, Florida
NIGHT	_ Michael J. Burke, Superintendent
Date: 6 27/13	
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Joseph Sendes	_ Joseph Sanches, Chief Operating Officer
A.	_ Heather Frederick, Chief Financial Officer
Ji-KLI	_ Tim Kubrick, Director of Labor Relations
M	Sarah Mooney, Chief of Police

STATE OF FLORIDA

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RELATIONS COMMISSION

PALM BEACH COUNTY POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC., CHARTERED BY THE FLORIDA POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, INC.,

Charging Party,

Case No. CA-2020-044

٧.

Order No.: 23U-072

Date Issued: May 23, 2023

SCHOOL BOARD OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA,

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER

On December 14, 2020, the Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association, Inc., chartered by the Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc. (PBA), filed an unfair labor practice (ULP) charge alleging that the School Board of Palm Beach County, Florida (Board) violated section 447.501(1)(a), (c), and (f), Florida Statutes (2022), by circumventing the promotional process for Sergeants set forth in the parties' collective bargaining agreement (CBA), even after a grievance regarding the matter had been granted. The Commission's General Counsel found the charge to be sufficient, and a hearing officer was appointed.

On February 28, 2023, after a four-day evidentiary hearing, the hearing officer issued his recommended order², concluding that the Board violated section 447.501(1)(a) and (c), Florida Statutes. The hearing officer also concluded that the Board did not

¹ All statutory citations are to the 2022 edition of the Florida Statutes.

² References to the hearing officer's recommended order are designated as "HORO at" followed by the appropriate page number(s).

violate section 447.501(1)(f), Florida Statutes, and that both parties were entitled to partial awards of attorney's fees and costs. On March 15, the PBA filed exceptions to the recommended order. The Board did not file any exceptions of its own but filed a response to the PBA's exceptions on March 27.³ A transcript of the hearing was filed with the Commission.

First, we review the pertinent facts. Article 20.11 of the parties' CBA sets forth the applicable procedures and the required qualifications for an Officer who seeks to become a Sergeant. In 2016, the PBA filed a grievance claiming that the Board was permitting Officers to sit for the Sergeant's examination although they did not meet the requirements of the CBA. The grievance disposition confirmed the allegation and directed Police Chief Lawrence Leon "to follow the CBA on this issue on a go-forward basis."

In February 2020, the PBA filed a second grievance asserting that new Police Chief Frank Kitzerow was promoting individuals to Sergeant in a manner contrary to the terms of Article 20.11. The Board asserted that the individuals were merely temporarily assigned as Acting Sergeants. On March 13, the grievance was granted, noting that while the Chief has the authority to make special duty assignments to Sergeant, the Chief must comply with Article 20.11. The disposition directed the Chief to relieve the Officers of their Acting Sergeant assignments, cease providing them with supplemental pay, and follow the process set forth in Article 20.11 for all future Sergeant assignments.

³ On March 30, the PBA filed a reply to the Board's response to the exceptions. The PBA's reply is hereby stricken as unauthorized. Fla. Admin. Code R. 28-106.217; see, e.g., Diaz v. DHSMV, 13 FCSR ¶ 109, 1998 FL PERC LEXIS 506, at *2 n.1 (1998).

Shortly after the grievance was granted, it appeared that certain Acting Sergeants were still performing Sergeant duties. In August 2020, the PBA learned that the Board had continued to circumvent the CBA's promotional process for Sergeants through a series of subtle changes in operations that created a position ultimately known as Detective Supervisor, which had the same duties and supervisory responsibilities as Sergeants. Instead of relieving the Acting Sergeants of their duties and discontinuing their supplemental pay, the Board changed the title of several Acting Sergeants to Detective Supervisor and continued their supplemental pay. The Board also promoted new individuals, who did not meet the requirements of Article 20.11 and did not take the Sergeant's examination, from rank-and-file classifications to the Detective Supervisor position. Those officers who had previously taken the Sergeant's examination and were already Sergeants were not given the Detective Supervisor title change. Further, Chief Kitzerow stopped promoting anyone to the classification of Sergeant.

In response, the PBA filed this charge alleging violations of section 447.501(1)(a), (c), and (f), Florida Statutes, which provide:

- (1) Public employers or their agents of representatives are prohibited from:
 - (a) Interfering with, restraining, or coercing public employees in the exercise of any rights guaranteed them under this part.

. . . .

(c) Refusing to bargain collectively, failing to bargain collectively in good faith, or refusing to sign a final agreement agreed upon with the certified bargaining agent for the public employees in the bargaining unit.

. . . .

(f) Refusing to discuss grievances in good faith pursuant to the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with either the certified bargaining agent for the public employee or the employee involved.

Specifically, the PBA alleged that the Board violated these provisions by: (1) refusing to comply with the 2020 granted grievance and (2) creating and reclassifying individuals to the new Detective Supervisor classification with the same duties and responsibilities as Sergeants.

The PBA has filed three exceptions to the hearing officer's legal conclusions. In resolving these exceptions, we apply the following standard of review:

When a party excepts to a conclusion of law, the Commission has the principal responsibility of interpreting the statutory provisions consistent with the legislature's intent and objectives. We may substitute our conclusions of law for those of the hearing officer in those cases where we find our resolution of those issues is as reasonable or more reasonable than that of the hearing officer. In resolving exceptions to conclusions of law, we consider the statute at issue, policy considerations, and whether the hearing officer's analysis is consistent with pertinent judicial and Commission precedent.

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Florida Public Services Union (FPSU),
Change To Win (CTW) v. The District Board of Trustees of Valencia College, Florida, 47
FPER ¶ 327 (2021) (cleaned up). ⁴

⁴ Internal citations, quotation marks, and brackets have been omitted from the quoted material to enhance readability; the quotation otherwise faithfully reproduces the quoted text.

In its first exception, the PBA asserts that after correctly finding that the Board intentionally disregarded the 2020 granted grievance, the hearing officer erred in not analyzing whether that action violated section 447.501(1)(a), (c), and/or (f), Florida Statutes. As to section 447.501(1)(a) and (c), the hearing officer considered the Board's creation of the new Detective Supervisor classification and found that it violated subsections (1)(a) and (c).⁵ However, he did not consider the Board's refusal to comply with the granted grievance because he concluded that the PBA did not pursue that grievance to arbitration as required by *Westfall v. Orange County Board of County Commissioners*, 8 FPER ¶ 13367 (1982). As to section 447.501(1)(f), the hearing officer considered both allegations but, again, found that because the PBA did not proceed to arbitration on the grievance, the PBA could not demonstrate, under *Westfall*, that the Board's actions prohibited the PBA from fully utilizing the contractual grievance procedure.

With this backdrop, we turn to the merits of the PBA's first exception. In essence, the PBA objects to the hearing officer's conclusion that the PBA was required to advance its 2020 grievance to arbitration – a conclusion that impacts several aspects of the hearing officer's legal analysis. We recognize that on a prior occasion, *Westfall* has been applied where an employee organization prevailed on a grievance and later alleged that the employer failed to comply with the grievance disposition. *See Federation of Public*

⁵ There were no exceptions filed as to that legal conclusion, with which we agree. Thus, it will not be discussed here.

Employees, a Division of the National Federation of Public and Private Employees v. The School Board of Broward County, Florida, 22 FPER ¶ 27002 (G.C. Summary Dismissal 1995) (dismissing alleged violation of section 447.501(1)(f), Florida Statutes, for failing to demonstrate that the employer prevented the union from advancing the grievance to arbitration under Westfall). However, in such a situation, the requirements of Westfall do not apply.

A charge asserting that an employer has failed to comply with the terms upon which a grievance has been resolved or settled asserts a contractual right derived from the provisions of the underlying CBA. See United Faculty of Florida v. University of South Florida Board of Trustees, 36 FPER ¶ 61 (2010); Central Florida Police Benevolent Association, Inc. v. Orange County Board of County Commissioners, 19 FPER ¶ 24214 (1993) ("Grievance procedures, which are embodied in [CBAs] pursuant to the requirements of section 447.401, Florida Statutes, are terms and conditions of employment."). Contravention of this contractual right by an employer establishes an unlawful refusal to bargain in violation of section 447.501(1)(a) and (c). United Faculty of Florida, 36 FPER ¶ 61; Sharp v. City of Melbourne, 18 FPER ¶ 23092 (1992) ("Breaching the grievance settlement may be the basis for a unfair labor practice charge against the City analogous to a unilateral change in the terms of the underlying contract."); see, e.g., United Faculty of Florida, 36 FPER ¶ 61 (finding that the employer failed to bargain in good faith by not complying with the grievance settlement it had previously executed).

Furthermore, a public employer does not discuss a grievance in good faith where the grievance is granted and resolved in favor of the certified bargaining agent and the employer later fails to abide by the resolution. For example, in *Orange County*, 19 FPER ¶ 24214, the Commission found that the public employer did not refuse to discuss the grievance in good faith pursuant to the terms of the CBA where it fully abided by the decision resolving the grievance. The Commission stated that although the union filed a ULP charge, it could have filed a new grievance asserting that the employer failed to abide by the disposition of the prior grievance. *Id.; see also City of Melbourne*, 18 FPER ¶ 23092 (explaining the options for alleging a repudiated grievance settlement as pursuing a ULP charge or filing a new grievance).

In this case, the PBA chose to file a ULP charge to address the Board's disregard of the granted grievance and its subsequent actions in contradiction of the granted grievance. Thus, the hearing officer should have analyzed whether the Board's noncompliance with the granted grievance violated section 447.501(1)(a) and (c) and whether the Board's disregard and circumvention of the granted grievance violated section 447.501(1)(f). Accordingly, the PBA's first exception is granted. Because the hearing officer made the factual findings necessary for us to properly conduct this legal analysis, a remand is unnecessary. We now analyze both legal issues in turn.

The 2020 grievance disposition directed the Board to relieve all Officers assigned as Acting Sergeant, cease providing them with supplemental pay, and follow the process set forth in Article 20.11 for promoting Sergeants. Instead of doing so, the Board

changed the titles of employees who were Acting Sergeants to the new title of Detective Supervisors, kept them as supervisors over Officers, and allowed them to retain the supplemental pay. Thus, the Board failed to comply with the directives of the granted grievance, thereby violating a contractual right derived from the provisions of the CBA. This continued unilateral alteration of the promotional requirements in the CBA constitutes a failure to bargain in good faith, in violation of section 447.501(1)(a) and (c), Florida Statutes. See United Faculty of Florida, 36 FPER ¶ 61.

We now consider whether the Board's conduct — both the refusal to comply with the grievance disposition and the creation of the Detective Supervisor classification — violated section 447.501(1)(f), Florida Statutes. That subsection prohibits a public employer from refusing to discuss grievances in good faith pursuant to the terms of the CBA. § 447.501(1)(f), Fla. Stat. In this case, the hearing officer's recommended order is replete with findings of fact and legal conclusions demonstrating that the Board acted in bad faith with regard to the 2020 granted grievance. The hearing officer found that the Board took steps to conceal its efforts to disregard the grievance disposition by making subtle changes and using misleading terminology in the creation of the Detective Supervisor classification, which was essentially a mere retitling of the Sergeant classification for those previously assigned as Acting Sergeants. HORO at 23, 33. The hearing officer further concluded that "the 2016 grievance, the 2020 grievance, and the Chief's actions subsequent to the 2020 grievance demonstrate that the Board has a pattern of trying to evade the requirements of Article 20.11." HORO at 30.

Lastly, the hearing officer found that the Board acted surreptitiously in implementing the change from Acting Sergeant to Detective Supervisor: for example, making a series of changes through a vaguely worded email and various ambiguous orders issued over several months that only gradually made the role of the new classification clear; renaming several former Acting Sergeants to either Detective, Detective Sergeant, or Detective Supervisor – all of which are essentially synonyms for the supervisory position of Sergeant; and promoting new individuals as Detective Supervisors without following the process outlined in Article 20.11. HORO at 31-32. We agree with the hearing officer that the Board acted in bad faith concerning the 2020 granted grievance and the creation of the Detective Supervisor classification by disregarding and circumventing the directives of the grievance. Thus, we find that the Board's conduct demonstrates a refusal to discuss the grievance in good faith, which is a violation of section 447.501(1)(f), Florida Statutes. See Orange County, 19 FPER ¶ 24214.

As its second exception, the PBA argues that the Board should not be awarded attorney's fees and costs with respect to the PBA's section 447.501(1)(f) claim. Based on our resolution of the first exception, we agree. As we have found the PBA's claim to be meritorious, it does not meet the "frivolous, unreasonable, or groundless" standard; therefore, the Board is not entitled to fees.⁶ The PBA's second exception is granted.

⁶ We recently announced a new standard for determining when to award attorney's fees and costs to a prevailing respondent. See Singha v. Sheriff of Highlands

Further, we conclude that the Board knew or should have known that its actions were improper, as previously discussed. *See United Faculty of Florida*, 36 FPER ¶ 61 (describing standard for awarding fees and costs to a successful charging party as whether the employer knew or should have known that its conduct was unlawful). Thus, we award attorney's fees and costs to the PBA, as the prevailing party on this portion of the charge as well.

The PBA's third exception essentially requests clarification of the portion of the hearing officer's recommended order directing the Board to "[r]estore the status quo Board rank structure that existed prior to March 20, 2020, with the exception of rescinding salary increases upon request of the PBA." We interpret this statement as requiring the Board to reclassify the Officers assigned as Detective Supervisors and cease paying them supplemental pay with the caveat that those Officers do not have to repay any amounts of supplemental pay previously earned.

However, because the creation of the Detective Supervisor classification was simply a continuation of the misconduct addressed by the 2020 granted grievance, we instead direct the Board to return to the status quo of the rank structure that existed prior to the assignment of several individuals to the Acting Sergeant classification. In other words, all Officers shall be removed from both the Detective Supervisor and the Acting

County, 49 FPER ¶ 243 (2023). Under the new standard, the Commission will follow the plain language of section 447.503(6)(c), Florida Statutes, instead of the former "frivolous, unreasonable, or groundless" standard. The new standard applies to ULP charges filed after the issuance of *Singha*. Therefore, the new standard does not apply in this case.

Sergeant classifications, if any remain; the Board shall cease paying these Officers supplemental pay, but none of the Officers are required to repay any amounts of supplemental pay earned prior to the issuance of this order; and the Board shall cease all efforts to circumvent the CBA's promotional process for Sergeants moving forward.

Upon review of the entire record, we conclude that the hearing officer's findings of fact are supported by competent, substantial evidence received in a proceeding which satisfied the essential requirements of law. See Boyd v. Department of Revenue, 682 So. 2d 1117 (Fla. 4th DCA 1996). Therefore, we adopt the hearing officer's findings of fact. Insofar as we have disagreed with some of the hearing officer's conclusions of law, we find that our resolution of those issues is as or more reasonable than that of the hearing officer. § 120.57(1)(/), Fla. Stat. Accordingly, the hearing officer's recommended order, as modified by this order, is incorporated herein.

Pursuant to section 447.503(6), Florida Statutes, the Board is ORDERED to:

- 1) Cease and desist from:
 - (a) Disregarding the terms of the 2020 granted grievance;
 - (b) Circumventing the promotional procedures and requirements for Sergeants set forth in the CBA between the Board and the PBA;
 - (c) In any like or related manner, failing to bargain collectively in good faith over wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment;
 - (d) In any like or related manner, interfering with, restraining, or coercing bargaining unit members in the exercise of any rights guaranteed under Chapter 447, Part II, Florida Statutes; and

- (e) In any like or related manner, refusing to discuss grievances in good faith pursuant to the terms of the CBA.
- 2) Take the following affirmative action:
 - (a) Restore to status quo the Board rank structure that existed prior to the assignment of certain individuals as Acting Sergeants, with no further supplemental pay but without requiring reimbursement of any previously earned supplemental pay.
 - (b) Henceforth, comply with the promotional process for Sergeants set forth in the CBA;
 - (c) Pay the PBA its reasonable attorney's fees and litigation costs for the successful prosecution of the charge as to violations of section 447.501(1)(a), (c) and (f), Florida Statutes; and
 - (d) Post immediately in the manner in which the Board customarily communicates with its employees, the attached Notice to Employees.⁷

The PBA is directed to file its attorney's fees and costs proposal within thirty days from the date of this order. The Clerk of the Commission is directed to open an attorney's fees case and schedule a hearing.

⁷ The Board can satisfy this requirement by e-mailing the Notice to Employees to bargaining unit members or by posting the Notice to Employees on its website. See School District of Orange County v. Orange County Classroom Teachers Association, 146 So. 3d 1203 (Fla. 5th DCA 2014) (questioning the practicality of requiring the actual posting of notices given the advancement in modern technology).

This order may be appealed to the appropriate district court of appeal.⁸ A notice of appeal must be received by the Commission and the district court of appeal within thirty days from the date of this order. Except in cases of indigency, the court will require a filing fee and the Commission will require payment for preparing the record on appeal. Further explanation of the right to appeal is provided in sections 120.68 and 447.504, Florida Statutes (2022), and the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.

It is so ordered. RUBOTTOM, Chair, AARON and SASSO, Commissioners, concur.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this document was filed and a copy served on each party on May 23, 2023.

BY: Baryadum-Clerk

/ia

COPIES FURNISHED:

For Charging Party Lawrence K. Fagan, Esquire Katie Lynne Mendoza, Esquire

For Respondent Andrew Brett Carrabis, Esquire Jean Marie Middleton, Esquire Mary Quesada Veronica Velez

⁸ The portion of the final order addressing entitlement to attorney's fees is nonfinal and, therefore, not appealable until the amount is determined. See McGee v. McGee. 264 So. 3d 1087, 1089 (Fla. 1st DCA 2019).