



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION  
OF THE  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

In the Matter of J.A., Police Officer  
(S9999U), Newark

CSC Docket No. 2018-3421

Medical Review Panel Appeal

**ISSUED:** June 27, 2019 (BS)

J.A. appeals her rejection as a Police Officer candidate by the Newark Police Department and its request to remove her name from the eligible list for Police Officer (S9999U) on the basis of psychological unfitness to perform effectively the duties of the position.

This appeal was brought before the Medical Review Panel on April 30, 2019, which rendered its report and recommendation on April 30, 2019. 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 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. 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.

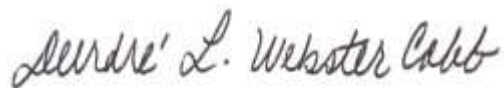
**ORDER**

The Civil Service Commission finds that the appointing authority has not met its burden of proof that J.A. is psychologically unfit to perform effectively the duties of a Police Officer and, therefore, the Commission orders that her 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 her working test period, the Commission orders that appellant be granted a retroactive date of appointment to July 31, 2017, the date she would have been appointed if her 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 26TH DAY OF JUNE, 2019



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Deirdre L. Webster Cobb  
Chairperson, Civil Service Commission

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