



Maine Human Rights Commission

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INVESTIGATOR'S REPORT

MHRC Case No.: E15-0154

March 23, 2017

Peter Hyatt (Old Town)

v.

Getchell Agency, Inc.¹ (Bangor)

I. Summary of Case:

Complainant Peter Hyatt, who worked for Respondent Getchell Agency, Inc. as the Chief Operating Officer from August 2014 through October 2014, alleged that Respondent retaliated against him when it terminated Complainant's employment for reporting unsafe or illegal behavior in the workplace. Respondent, a business that provides residential support services to disabled individuals, denied retaliating against Complainant; his employment was terminated when his services were no longer needed. The Investigator conducted a preliminary investigation, which included reviewing all of the documents submitted by the parties and requesting additional information². Based upon this information, the Investigator recommends that the Commission find that there are reasonable grounds to believe that Respondent retaliated against Complainant for engaging in protected activity.

II. Jurisdictional Data:

- 1) Dates of alleged discrimination: October 9, 2014.
- 2) Date complaint filed with the Maine Human Rights Commission ("Commission"): March 30, 2015.
- 3) Respondent has approximately 160 employees and is subject to the Maine Human Rights Act ("MHRA") and the Whistleblowers' Protection Act ("WPA"), as well as state employment regulations.
- 4) Complainant is represented by Edward W. Gould, Esq. Respondent is not represented by counsel.

III. Development of Facts:

- 1) Complainant provided the following in support of his claims:

¹ Complainant's complaint listed Respondent's name as Getchell Agency, Inc. Respondent provided that its legal name is "The Getchell Agency, Inc." Because Complainant has not amended his complaint to use Respondent's legal name, the name used by Complainant has been retained.

² The Investigator sent requests for additional information to Complainant and Respondent; neither responded, apparently because Respondent filed a bankruptcy action.