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August 8, 2017

*Via Certified Mail*

Records Access Officer  
FDNY Public Records Unit  
9 MetroTech Center- First Floor  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201

Records Access Officer  
Department of Citywide Administrative Services,  
Office of the General Counsel  
One Centre Street, 16th Floor  
New York, NY 10007

Records Access Officer  
NYC Civil Service Commission  
1 Centre Street, Room 2300N  
New York, New York 10007

Dear Records Access Officers:

This is a request for public documents pursuant to the New York State Freedom of Information Law (Article 6 of the Public Officers Law). Please provide access to and copies of the documents described below that were in effect at any time since January 1, 2015.

(1) All documents concerning the procedure, standards, and factors evaluated for psychological evaluation and disqualification of candidates for FDNY positions.

(2) All documents concerning any procedure, standards, and factors specific to veterans, including combat and disabled veterans, for psychological evaluation and disqualification of candidates for FDNY positions.

(3) For candidates for FDNY positions:

a. Records sufficient to reflect the number of proposed disqualifications based in any part on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and the position(s) applied for;

b. Records sufficient to reflect the number of final disqualifications based in any part on PTSD and the position(s) applied for;

- c. Records sufficient to reflect the number of applications withdrawn following a notice of proposed disqualification that was based in any part on PTSD, and the position(s) applied for;
  - d. Records sufficient to reflect how many candidates in each of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) claimed a Veterans' Credit in their applications;
  - e. Records sufficient to reflect how many candidates in each of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) claimed a Disabled Veterans' Credit in their applications; and
  - f. Copies of all documents in each file of any applicant who received a disqualification or proposed disqualification based in any part on PTSD, with any required privacy redactions, including but not limited to notices of proposed disqualification, candidate responses, notices of final disqualification, and documents filed with the Civil Service Commission concerning such disqualifications.
- (4) For applicants who began employment with the FDNY since January 1, 2015:
- a. Records sufficient reflect the total number of and position(s) for such hires;
  - b. Records sufficient to reflect the total number of such hires and the position for which they were hired, for each of:
    - i. Candidates whose records reflect a PTSD diagnosis at any time;
    - ii. Candidates who claimed a Veterans' Credit on their applications;
    - iii. Candidates who claimed a Disabled Veterans' Credit on their applications; and
    - iv. Candidates whose records reflected receipt of VA disability benefits.
  - c. Copies of all documents in each file of applicants described in paragraph (b), with any required privacy redactions.
- (5) Records sufficient to reflect the total number of current FDNY employees whose records reflect a diagnosis of PTSD and their position(s).
- (6) Records sufficient to reflect any accommodations provided to FDNY employees for PTSD, including the position and nature of the accommodation.
- (7) Records sufficient to reflect the number of complaints received in any office, including the FDNY EEO office and the Civil Service Commission, concerning

disability discrimination in psychological evaluation in hiring for FDNY positions, and to identify the FDNY positions at issue.

- (8) Copies of all complaints received in any office, including the FDNY EEO office and the Civil Service Commission, concerning disability discrimination in hiring for FDNY positions, and all documents concerning those complaints and action taken on the complaints, with any required privacy redactions.

Please email the records to [mgoodell@dralegal.org](mailto:mgoodell@dralegal.org). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 212-644-8644.

If for any reason any portion of this request is denied, please inform me of the reasons for the denial in writing and provide the name, street address, and email address of the person or office to whom an appeal should be directed.

I write on behalf of Disability Rights Advocates, a nonprofit civil rights firm advocating on behalf of persons with disabilities. As a nonprofit entity with limited resources, we request a fee waiver or discount for any expenses associated with this request. In the alternative, please notify us if the production of these documents will incur significant costs for our organization. Thank you.

Very respectfully,



Maia Goodell