

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FILED

for the

District of _____

Division _____

2022 AUG 18 PM 12:55

U.S. DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TN

03-22 0638

Case No. _____

(to be filled in by the Clerk's Office)

Jury Trial: (check one)



Yes



No

Jill Marie Fitchard

Plaintiff(s)

(Write the full name of each plaintiff who is filing this complaint. If the names of all the plaintiffs cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

-v-

Metropolitan Government
of
Nashville & Davidson County

Defendant(s)

(Write the full name of each defendant who is being sued. If the names of all the defendants cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)

COMPLAINT FOR EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION

I. The Parties to This Complaint

A. The Plaintiff(s)

Provide the information below for each plaintiff named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Name

Jill Marie Fitchard

Street Address

2232 Arbor Pointe Way

City and County

Hermitage Davidson County

State and Zip Code

Tennessee 37076

Telephone Number

615-681-5801

E-mail Address

Redclover_7235@comcast.net

B. The Defendant(s)

Provide the information below for each defendant named in the complaint, whether the defendant is an individual, a government agency, an organization, or a corporation. For an individual defendant, include the person's job or title (if known). Attach additional pages if needed.

Defendant No. 1

Name

Metropolitan Government of
Nashville + Davidson County

Job or Title (if known)

Street Address

1 Public Square Metro Courthouse

City and County

Nashville Davidson County

State and Zip Code

Tennessee 37201

Telephone Number

615-862-6341

E-mail Address (if known)

Defendant No. 2

Name

Job or Title (if known)

Street Address

City and County

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

E-mail Address (if known)

Defendant No. 3

Name

Job or Title (if known)

Street Address

City and County

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

E-mail Address (if known)

Defendant No. 4

Name

Job or Title (if known)

Street Address

City and County

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

E-mail Address (if known)

C. Place of Employment

The address at which I sought employment or was employed by the defendant(s) is

Name

Street Address

City and County

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

Metro Community Oversight Board
222 2nd Ave. N. Suite 370-M
Nashville Davidson County
Tennessee 37201
615-880-1800

II. Basis for Jurisdiction

This action is brought for discrimination in employment pursuant to (check all that apply):



Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as codified, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e to 2000e-17 (race, color, gender, religion, national origin).

(Note: In order to bring suit in federal district court under Title VII, you must first obtain a Notice of Right to Sue letter from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.)



Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as codified, 29 U.S.C. §§ 621 to 634.

(Note: In order to bring suit in federal district court under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, you must first file a charge with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.)



Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as codified, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12112 to 12117.

(Note: In order to bring suit in federal district court under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you must first obtain a Notice of Right to Sue letter from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.)



Other federal law (specify the federal law):



Relevant state law (specify, if known):



Relevant city or county law (specify, if known):

III. Statement of Claim

Write a short and plain statement of the claim. Do not make legal arguments. State as briefly as possible the facts showing that each plaintiff is entitled to the damages or other relief sought. State how each defendant was involved and what each defendant did that caused the plaintiff harm or violated the plaintiff's rights, including the dates and places of that involvement or conduct. If more than one claim is asserted, number each claim and write a short and plain statement of each claim in a separate paragraph. Attach additional pages if needed.

A. The discriminatory conduct of which I complain in this action includes *(check all that apply)*:

- ☐ Failure to hire me.
- ☐ Termination of my employment.
- ☐ Failure to promote me.
- ☐ Failure to accommodate my disability.
- ☐ Unequal terms and conditions of my employment.
- ☒ Retaliation.
- ☒ Other acts *(specify)*: Race

(Note: Only those grounds raised in the charge filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission can be considered by the federal district court under the federal employment discrimination statutes.)

B. It is my best recollection that the alleged discriminatory acts occurred on date(s)

12-01-2021 - present

C. I believe that defendant(s) *(check one)*:

- ☒ is/are still committing these acts against me.
- ☐ is/are not still committing these acts against me.

D. Defendant(s) discriminated against me based on my *(check all that apply and explain)*:

- ☒ race African American
- ☐ color _____
- ☐ gender/sex _____
- ☐ religion _____
- ☐ national origin _____
- ☐ age *(year of birth)* _____ *(only when asserting a claim of age discrimination.)*
- ☐ disability or perceived disability *(specify disability)* _____

E. The facts of my case are as follows. Attach additional pages if needed.

(Note: As additional support for the facts of your claim, you may attach to this complaint a copy of your charge filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, or the charge filed with the relevant state or city human rights division.)

IV. Exhaustion of Federal Administrative Remedies

- A. It is my best recollection that I filed a charge with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or my Equal Employment Opportunity counselor regarding the defendant's alleged discriminatory conduct on (date)

May 19, 2022

- B. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (check one):

☐

has not issued a Notice of Right to Sue letter.

☒

issued a Notice of Right to Sue letter, which I received on (date)

May 24, 2022

(Note: Attach a copy of the Notice of Right to Sue letter from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to this complaint.)

- C. Only litigants alleging age discrimination must answer this question.

Since filing my charge of age discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission regarding the defendant's alleged discriminatory conduct (check one):

☐

60 days or more have elapsed.

☐

less than 60 days have elapsed.

V. Relief

State briefly and precisely what damages or other relief the plaintiff asks the court to order. Do not make legal arguments. Include any basis for claiming that the wrongs alleged are continuing at the present time. Include the amounts of any actual damages claimed for the acts alleged and the basis for these amounts. Include any punitive or exemplary damages claimed, the amounts, and the reasons you claim you are entitled to actual or punitive money damages.

Plaintiff requests the Courts to award her \$12,500 for actual damages for mobile, digital & computer devices that she purchased. Plaintiff requests the Courts to award punitive damages in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the harm experienced to her physical, mental, emotional & well-being because of the continued digital terrorism.

Plaintiff requests the Courts to prohibit Metro Nashville Government from using digital technology to harass or intimidate or retaliate against her. Plaintiff requests the Courts to prohibit the Metro Nashville Government from unlawfully accessing and surveilling Plaintiff's mobile, digital, and personal computers.

VI. Certification and Closing

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint: (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation; (2) is supported by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law; (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11.

A. For Parties Without an Attorney

I agree to provide the Clerk's Office with any changes to my address where case-related papers may be served. I understand that my failure to keep a current address on file with the Clerk's Office may result in the dismissal of my case.

Date of signing:

8/18/2022

Signature of Plaintiff

Printed Name of Plaintiff

Jill Marie Fitchard
Jill Marie Fitchard

B. For Attorneys

Date of signing:

Signature of Attorney

Printed Name of Attorney

Bar Number

Name of Law Firm

Street Address

State and Zip Code

Telephone Number

E-mail Address



U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Nashville Area Office
220 Athens Way, Suite 350
Nashville, TN 37228
(629) 236-2240
Website: www.eeoc.gov

DETERMINATION AND NOTICE OF RIGHTS

(This Notice replaces EEOC FORMS 161 & 161-A)

Issued On: 05/24/2022

To: Jill M. Fitchard-Verge
2232 Arbor Pointe Way
HERMITAGE, TN 37076

Charge No: 494-2022-01291

EEOC Representative and email: Dawn Smith
Investigator
Dawn.Smith@eeoc.gov

DETERMINATION OF CHARGE

The EEOC issues the following determination: The EEOC will not proceed further with its investigation and makes no determination about whether further investigation would establish violations of the statute. This does not mean the claims have no merit. This determination does not certify that the respondent is in compliance with the statutes. The EEOC makes no finding as to the merits of any other issues that might be construed as having been raised by this charge.

The EEOC has adopted the findings of the state or local fair employment practices agency that investigated your charge.

NOTICE OF YOUR RIGHT TO SUE

This is official notice from the EEOC of the dismissal of your charge and of your right to sue. If you choose to file a lawsuit against the respondent(s) on this charge under federal law in federal or state court, **your lawsuit must be filed WITHIN 90 DAYS of your receipt of this notice.** Receipt generally occurs on the date that you (or your representative) view this document. You should keep a record of the date you received this notice. Your right to sue based on this charge will be lost if you do not file a lawsuit in court within 90 days. (The time limit for filing a lawsuit based on a claim under state law may be different.)

If you file suit, based on this charge, please send a copy of your court complaint to this office.

On behalf of the Commission,

Digitally Signed By: Edmond Sims
05/24/2022

Edmond Sims
Acting District Director

CC:

Please retain this notice for your records.

CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION This form is affected by the Privacy Act of 1974. See enclosed Privacy Act Statement and other information before completing this form.	Charge Presented To: EEOC Agency(ies) Charge No(s): 494-2022-01291
and EEOC	
_____ <i>State or local Agency, if any</i>	

Name (indicate Mr., Ms., Mrs.) Jill M. Fitchard-Verge	Home Phone (615) 977-4770	Year of Birth 1968
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Street Address

2232 Arbor Pointe Way
HERMITAGE, TN 37076

Named is the Employer, Labor Organization, Employment Agency, Apprenticeship Committee, or State or Local Government Agency That I Believe Discriminated Against Me or Others. (If more than two, list under PARTICULARS below.)

Name METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE & DAVIDSON COUNTY	No. Employees, Members 501+ Employees	Phone No. (615) 862-6341
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Street Address

1 PUBLIC SQUARE METRO COURTHOUSE, SUITE 108
NASHVILLE, TN 37201

Name	No. Employees, Members	Phone No.
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Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON Retaliation, Race	DATE(S) DISCRIMINATION TOOK PLACE <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Earliest</td> <td>Latest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12/01/2021</td> <td>01/03/2022</td> </tr> </table>	Earliest	Latest	12/01/2021	01/03/2022
Earliest	Latest				
12/01/2021	01/03/2022				

THE PARTICULARS ARE (If additional paper is needed, attach extra sheet(s)):

I am a Black-African/American. I was hired by the above-named employer on June 17, 2019, as an Assistant Director. On December 4, 2019, I was promoted to an Executive Director of Commission. During my employment I've been subjected to harassment from the Information Technology Department. In January 2022, I filed a complaint regarding having multiple technological issues with my work laptop and cell phone. Even though, my devices were replaced I'm still unable to log into the company network to retrieve my emails and calendar. Currently, I'm using a web-based outlook instead the company network. I believe my laptop and company cell phone including my personal cell phone are being monitored differently. I believe that I am being discriminated based on my race (Black-African/American) and retaliated against both in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

I want this charge filed with both the EEOC and the State or local Agency, if any. I will advise the agencies if I change my address or phone number and I will cooperate fully with them in the processing of my charge in accordance with their procedures.	NOTARY – When necessary for State and Local Agency Requirements
I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct. Digitally Signed By: Jill M. Fitchard-Verge 05/19/2022 <div style="text-align: right;"><i>Charging Party Signature</i></div>	I swear or affirm that I have read the above charge and that it is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS DATE (month, day, year)

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT: Under the Privacy Act of 1974, Pub. Law 93-579, authority to request personal data and its uses are:

1. **FORM NUMBER/TITLE/DATE.** EEOC Form 5, Charge of Discrimination (11/09).
2. **AUTHORITY.** 42 U.S.C. 2000e-5(b), 29 U.S.C. 211, 29 U.S.C. 626, 42 U.S.C. 12117, 42 U.S.C. 2000ff-6.
3. **PRINCIPAL PURPOSES.** The purposes of a charge, taken on this form or otherwise reduced to writing (whether later recorded on this form or not) are, as applicable under the EEOC anti-discrimination statutes (EEOC statutes), to preserve private suit rights under the EEOC statutes, to invoke the EEOC's jurisdiction and, where dual-filing or referral arrangements exist, to begin state or local proceedings.
4. **ROUTINE USES.** This form is used to provide facts that may establish the existence of matters covered by the EEOC statutes (and as applicable, other federal, state or local laws). Information given will be used by staff to guide its mediation and investigation efforts and, as applicable, to determine, conciliate and litigate claims of unlawful discrimination. This form may be presented to or disclosed to other federal, state or local agencies as appropriate or necessary in carrying out EEOC's functions. A copy of this charge will ordinarily be sent to the respondent organization against which the charge is made.
5. **WHETHER DISCLOSURE IS MANDATORY; EFFECT OF NOT GIVING INFORMATION.** Charges must be reduced to writing and should identify the charging and responding parties and the actions or policies complained of. Without a written charge, EEOC will ordinarily not act on the complaint. Charges under Title VII, the ADA or GINA must be sworn to or affirmed (either by using this form or by presenting a notarized statement or unsworn declaration under penalty of perjury); charges under the ADEA should ordinarily be signed. Charges may be clarified or amplified later by amendment. It is not mandatory that this form be used to make a charge.

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST SUBSTANTIAL WEIGHT REVIEW

Charges filed at a state or local Fair Employment Practices Agency (FEPA) that dual-files charges with EEOC will ordinarily be handled first by the FEPA. Some charges filed at EEOC may also be first handled by a FEPA under worksharing agreements. You will be told which agency will handle your charge. When the FEPA is the first to handle the charge, it will notify you of its final resolution of the matter. Then, if you wish EEOC to give Substantial Weight Review to the FEPA's final findings, you must ask us in writing to do so within 15 days of your receipt of its findings. Otherwise, we will ordinarily adopt the FEPA's finding and close our file on the charge.

NOTICE OF NON-RETALIATION REQUIREMENTS

Please **notify** EEOC or the state or local agency where you filed your charge **if retaliation is taken against you or others** who oppose discrimination or cooperate in any investigation or lawsuit concerning this charge. Under Section 704(a) of Title VII, Section 4(d) of the ADEA, Section 503(a) of the ADA and Section 207(f) of GINA, it is unlawful for an *employer* to discriminate against present or former employees or job applicants, for an *employment agency* to discriminate against anyone, or for a *union* to discriminate against its members or membership applicants, because they have opposed any practice made unlawful by the statutes, or because they have made a charge, testified, assisted, or participated in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the laws. The Equal Pay Act has similar provisions and Section 503(b) of the ADA prohibits coercion, intimidation, threats or interference with anyone for exercising or enjoying, or aiding or encouraging others in their exercise or enjoyment of, rights under the Act.