

**BEFORE THE MERIT EMPLOYEE RELATIONS BOARD
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLASSIFICATION MAINTENANCE REVIEW OF:

CAPRICE WRIGHT,

Appellant,

and

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES,
DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR AGING AND ADULTS
WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES, DELAWARE
HOSPITAL FOR THE CHRONICALLY ILL,**

Employer.

)
) **MERB Docket No. 25-09-985C**
)
) **INDEPENDENT REVIEWER’S**
) **RECOMMENDATION TO DISMISS**
) **APPEAL ACCEPTED**
)
) **ORDER OF DISMISSAL**
)
)

OFFICE ASSOCIATE

On or about September 8, 2025, Caprice Wright (“Appellant”) filed a Classification Appeal (which was joined by five (5) other DHCI Office Assistants) with the Merit Employee Relations Board (“Board”), asserting the Classification Maintenance Review determination reclassifying her former classification of Operation Support Specialist to Office Assistant was in error.¹ The appeal requested her position be reclassified to Administrative Specialist.

This appeal was assigned to the Board’s Independent Reviewer, Andrew S. Haines,

¹ 29 Del. C. §5915(c): Any maintenance review classification determination may be appealed to the Merit Employee Relations Board by any affected employee or agency within 30 calendar days of notification. The Merit Employee Relations Board shall hear all maintenance review classification appeals before it in chronological order, beginning with the oldest such appeal unless all parties are in agreement with other such arrangements.

who contacted the Appellant to schedule an interview.² Despite multiple efforts to contact the Appellant by email and telephone over the course of a two month period, the Appellant did not respond.

The Independent Reviewer issued his findings:

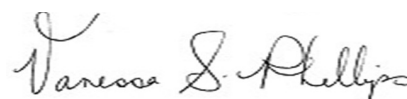
Because the employee did not respond to the multiple opportunities provided to participate in the independent review, no substantive review of the appeal was conducted. As stated in the July 29, 2026 email, failure to respond by the stated deadline would result in closure of the matter. Accordingly, this appeal is deemed closed without further review.

This case is dismissed based on lacking relevance to review.

The Independent Reviewer's recommendation was forwarded to the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources on August 21, 2026, and was accepted by email dated September 1, 2026.

WHEREFORE, the Recommendation of the Independent Reviewer to dismiss this appeal is hereby accepted.

SO ORDERED, THIS 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2026.


VANESSA S. PHILLIPS, CHAIR

² The Board acknowledges there was a delay between the submission of the appeal and issuance of the Independent Reviewer's recommendation which was due to the large volume of pending Classification Maintenance Review Appeals.