EEOC COMPLAINT

December 18, 2024

Via Overnight Mail

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Richmon Local Office 400 N. Eighth Street Suite 350 Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Complaint of Disability Discrimination in Violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) submitted by Clarissa McGhee against Nu-Tech Janitorial Services

Dear Richmond Local Office Investigators:

I write to file a complaint alleging discrimination on the basis of disability against me, Clarissa McGhee, by Nu-Tech Janitorial Services ("Nu-Tech"), and in support thereof state the following:

- 1. My name is Clarissa McGhee, my address is 2208 Waverly St. Hopewell, VA 23860 my phone number is 804-803-4615, and my email address is clarissamcghee@gmail.com.
- 2. From approximately 2020 until November 2024, I was employed as a janitor by Nu-Tech.
- 3. Nu-Tech is run by Dennis Tripi, is located at 2025 E Main St. Suite 218, Richmond, VA 23223, their phone number is 804-728-2045, and their email address is dtripinutechjanitorial@gmail.com.
 - 4. Nu-Tech employs approximately one hundred (100) employees.
- 5. In my position as a janitor with Nu-Tech, I worked at the Marshall Plaza building, where Nu-Tech was contracted by the City of Richmond to provide janitorial services.
 - 6. Since May 2023, I have needed to use a cane.

- 7. I am capable of otherwise performing normal functions without the cane, however, I have to use the cane intermittently, especially to travel longer distances.
- 8. Beginning in or about October 2024, my manager, Russell Dandridge told me that he did not want me to work at Nu-Tech with my cane, that he had a problem with people with canes.
- 9. I would explain to him that I did not need the cane for work; that I would use the cane to get to work, but that while working I could put my cane aside.
- 10. Russel Dandridge would still tell me that he did not want me to come to work with my cane.
- 11. At the beginning of November 2024 I had to be out of work for a week on medical leave.
- 12. When I tried to return to work on or about November 11, 2024, Latelia [Last Name Unknown ("LNU")], a secretary at Nu-Tech, told me to clock out, and come back with a doctor's note explaining why I was out and explaining why I need a cane.
- 13. Latelia [LNU] told me that once I brought the doctor's note, I would be called by my manager, Russell Dandridge, and told when to come back to work.
- 14. The following day, I went to my doctor, who provided me with a note explaining that I needed to use a cane, but that I could otherwise do my normal work.
 - 15. The following week, I brought the doctor's note to Latelia [LNU].
- 16. When I met with her, I explained to her that I only used the cane to get to and from work, and that I don't need it while working.
- 17. She stated "but you are still using the cane, people with canes are a liability," and sent me home.

18. To the present date, I have not received a call to return to work from anyone at Nu-Tech, or any other communication indicating when I would be able to return to work.

19. Based on the comments about my cane made by Russell Dandridge and Latelia [LNU], I understand that Nu-Tech is not returning me to work because they are discriminating against me because I have a disability that requires me to use my cane.

20. This violates the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

Sincerely,

Clarissa McGhee 2208 Waverly St. Hopewell, VA 23860 clarissamcghee@gmail.com