

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Torrington Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parents: Attorney Rachel M. Baird
Law Offices of Rachel M. Baird
Stonegate Professional Building
379 Prospect Street
Torrington, CT 06790-5239

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Michelle C. Laubin
Berchem, Moses & Devlin, P.C.
75 Broad Street
Milford, CT 06460

Appearing before: Attorney Patricia M. Strong
Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On March 29, 2005 the Parents filed a due process request seeking an out-of-district placement and other relief for the Student, who has a language impairment disorder. A prehearing conference was held on April 6 at which time the Board was represented by another law firm. Hearing dates were scheduled for May 12 and 16 and the decision deadline was extended from May 13 to June 13 at the request of the Parents' attorney. On April 19 Atty. Laubin appeared for the Board and advised the Hearing Officer that she had a conflict on May 16. On April 28 the Parents' attorney wrote a letter to the Hearing Officer requesting that the May 12 hearing be postponed so that the parties could use the date for mediation. On May 5 the postponements of the May 12 and 16 hearing dates were granted, the hearing was rescheduled for June 20 and the decision deadline was extended to July 28 at the parties' request. On June 2 the Parents' attorney requested a postponement of the June 20 hearing because she had to appear in U.S. District Court with another client on that date. The Board's attorney did not object to the postponement, which was granted. The case was rescheduled for July 6 and the deadline was extended to August 1. The parties participated in a mediation on June 8, but did not reach an agreement. On June 29 the Board filed hearing exhibits and a witness list with the Hearing Officer. The Parents filed a supplemental witness list to the Board's list and no exhibits. On July 6 the parties appeared for the hearing and indicated that they had reached a settlement. The hearing convened on the record. The parties reported that the agreement was reduced to writing, that the Father, who was not present at the hearing,

needed to sign it and that they wished to have the Hearing Officer dismiss the case with prejudice. The Mother indicated on the record that she understood and agreed to the dismissal.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

It is ordered that the case be dismissed with prejudice.