

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NO. 2013090293

ORDER GRANTING PEREMPTORY
CHALLENGE

On December 2, 2013, the Torrance Unified School District (District), through counsel, filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) a peremptory challenge seeking to disqualify Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Judith Pasewark from hearing this case.

Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), establishes the criteria for disqualification of the presiding officer. A party is entitled to one peremptory challenge (disqualification without cause) to an ALJ assigned to an Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) hearing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subs. (a) & (b); Gov. Code, § 11425.40, subd. (d).) In no event will a peremptory challenge be allowed if it is made after the hearing has commenced. In addition, if at the time of a scheduled prehearing conference, an ALJ has been assigned to the Hearing, any challenge to the assigned ALJ shall be made no later than commencement of that prehearing conference. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (c).) A peremptory challenge is not allowed on reconsideration or remand, and cannot be made after a hearing has begun. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (a).)

The District's peremptory challenge is timely made and is granted pursuant to Government section 11425.40, subdivisions (a) and (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034, subdivision (c).

ORDER

1. The peremptory challenge by Torrance Unified School District of ALJ Judith Pasewark is granted.

2. The mediation and hearing dates in the Scheduling Order following the granting of Student's Motion to File a Second Amended Due Process Request will remain on calendar.

3. ALJ Elsa Jones is now the assigned hearing judge in the case.

Dated: December 02, 2013

/s/

TIMOTHY L. NEWLOVE
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings