

BEFORE THE  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

DEL MAR UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT,

v.

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT

OAH Case No. 2015010798

ORDER GRANTING STUDENT'S  
SECOND REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUANCE

On April 17, 2015, Student filed a request to continue the dates in this matter based upon Student's treatment (MRI) at UCLA during the week of April 20, 2015, which conflicted with one of the previously set hearing dates, and Student's search for an attorney to represent him at hearing. Student's request did not include proposed hearing dates.

On April 20, 2015, OAH issued an Order, which granted Student's request, and continued the matter from April 20, 21 and 22 to April 27, 28 and 29, 2015.

On April 20, 2015, after the ALJ had ruled on Student's first request for a continuance, OAH received Student's second request for a continuance, which included proposed hearing dates of May 19, 20 and 21, 2015. Student's second request was based on the same reasons for the first request for a continuance. District did not oppose Student's second request for a continuance.

A due process hearing must be conducted and a decision rendered within 45 days of receipt of the due process notice unless an extension is granted for good cause. (34 C.F.R. § 300.515(a) & (c) (2006); Ed. Code, §§ 56502, subd. (f), 56505, subd. (f)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1020.) As a result, continuances are disfavored. Good cause may include the unavailability of a party, counsel, or an essential witness due to death, illness or other excusable circumstances; substitution of an attorney when the substitution is required in the interests of justice; a party's excused inability to obtain essential testimony or other material evidence despite diligent efforts; or another significant, unanticipated change in the status of the case as a result of which the case is not ready for hearing. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the proximity of the hearing date; previous continuances or delays; the length of continuance requested; the availability of other means to address the problem giving rise to the request; prejudice to a party or witness as a result of a continuance; the impact of granting a continuance on other pending hearings; whether trial counsel is engaged in another trial; whether the parties have stipulated to a continuance; whether the interests of justice are served by the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

OAH has reviewed the request for good cause and considered all relevant facts and circumstances. The request is:

Granted. All dates are vacated. This matter will be set as follows:

Due Process Hearing: May 19 at 9:30 a.m., May 20 and 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m., continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: April 24, 2015

/s/

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CAROLINE A. ZUK  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings