

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Bridgeport Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parents: Attorney Catherine Williams  
Connecticut Legal Services  
211 State Street  
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Susan Freedman  
Shipman & Goodwin, LLP  
One American Row  
Hartford, Connecticut 01-077

Appearing before: Attorney Christine B. Spak, Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**SUMMARY:**

The issues in this matter included identification, placement and compensatory education. The hearing began and during an extended recess the parties were able to reach a settlement. The parties requested that the terms of the settlement not be entered as an order, but requested that the matter be disposed of in total, partially by a dismissal and partially by a withdrawal with prejudice. The parties were all made aware of the significance of this and both were represented by counsel. The parents were not represented by counsel at the hearing, but indicated on the record that they did consult with their attorney by telephone prior to entering into the final agreement.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

1. The Board's Motion to Dismiss the Parent's claims for monetary damages is granted as the Hearing Officer does not have the authority to rule on a claim for monetary damages under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 1983 of the Civil Rights Act.
2. The parent will withdraw her claims for compensatory educational services with prejudice.