New Jersey Special Education Settlement

J.A., et al. v. New Jersey Dept. of Education, et al.
U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, Case No. 1:18-cv-9580
https://njspecialedsettlement.info/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – AUGUST 15, 2025

Landmark Settlement Fixes New Jersey's Special Education Dispute System

CAMDEN, New Jersey – On August 14, 2025, U.S. District Judge Edward S. Kiel approved the settlement and entered a Consent Order in a case filed against the New Jersey Department of Education and the Office of Administrative Law for alleged systemic violations of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA").

The settlement requires the NJDOE to bring its special education dispute resolution system into compliance with federal law and numerous regulations. Key elements of the settlement and Consent Order are that the 'Stay Put' rule must be honored like an injunction, that Administrative Law Judges ("ALJs") must adhere closely to the rules that protect the rights of parents and their children with a disability, and that all mediators and ALJs must receive proper training and education on these federal laws and regulations before handling such cases.

The Order also provides a remedy if a family believes their rights are being violated. They can file an allegation of such violation through either a form provided by the NJDOE or via the settlement website which will be online within a few days. More information on the terms of the settlement and how to file an allegation of a violation will be available on:

https://njspecialedsettlement.info/

Counsel for Plaintiffs is Robert Thurston of Thurston Law Offices LLC.

For more information, contact Counsel via
https://njspecialedsettlement.info/contact-counsel/ .

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