BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of: PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT, v. UPLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.	OAH Case No. 2018080058 ORDER SETTING ASIDE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

On August 16, 2018, the Office of Administrative Hearings issued an Order to Show Cause why West End Special Education Local Plan Area and Royal Lord, Ed.D., should not sanctioned by OAH regarding the representation of member school districts by Dr. Lord as a non-attorney advocate despite prior OAH orders in other cases involving Dr. Lord. The Order to Show Cause called for West End SELPA and Dr. Lord to submit a response to OAH by August 23, 2018. OAH received the response on August 23, 2018. The order to show cause occurred telephonically on August 27, 2018, with attorney Jonathan R. Read representing both West End SELPA and Dr. Lord.

The basis for the order to show cause was that OAH had issued several orders regarding Dr. Lord's representation of school districts belonging to the West End SELPA as a non-attorney advocate, each time informing Dr. Lord that he was not authorized by law to represent member school districts of the West End SELPA regarding matters pending before OAH. The May 4, 2018 Order in OAH Case No. 2018041203, indicated that OAH reserved the right to impose sanctions if Dr. Lord, or any other non-attorney advocate, was designated as the non-attorney advocate for the member school district by West End SELPA.

In the response by West End SELPA and Dr. Lord, they note that they were not aware that OAH's orders regarding representation by non-attorney advocates also applied mediation only matters as the prior orders involved requests for due process hearings. At the order to show cause hearing, the Presiding Administrative Law Judge pointed out that OAH had issued similar orders regarding mediation only matters and non-attorney advocate representation. However, none of those cases involved school districts who belonged to the West End SELPA. Mr. Read, on behalf of West End SELPA and Dr. Lord, stated that

West End SELPA and Dr. Lord were now aware of the limitation and that this type of non-attorney advocate representation would not occur again. Accordingly, the order to show cause is set aside.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: August 29, 2018

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Peter Paul Castillo
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PETER PAUL CASTILLO
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings