BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NUMBER 2020030673

ORDER GRANTING BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PEREMPTORY CHALLENGE

JUNE 15, 2020

On June 15, 2020, Bellflower Unified School District filed a notice of peremptory challenge to Administrative Law Judge Kara Hatfield in the above captioned matter. Bellflower Unified School District's peremptory challenge is made pursuant to Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), of the Administrative Procedures Act, and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034.

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 hearing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subds. (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. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (a).)

Bellflower Unified School 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. Bellflower Unified School District 's challenge of ALJ Hatfield is granted. Matter is now assigned to ALJ Rommel Cruz.
2. All dates previously set in this matter will remain on calendar.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DocuSigned by:
Peter Paul Castillo
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Peter Paul Castillo
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings