BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of: PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT, v. ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.	OAH Case No. 2017050795 ORDER GRANTING DISTRICT'S PEREMPTORY CHALLENGE

On July 3, 2017, at the start of the prehearing conference, Antioch Unified School District exercised its peremptory challenge as to Administrative Law Judge Penelope Pahl in the above captioned matter. Antioch's peremptory challenge was 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, and cannot be made after a hearing has begun. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (a).)

Antioch's peremptory challenge was timely made and was granted by Presiding Administrative Law Judge Margaret Gibson on July 3, 2017, pursuant to Government section 11425.40, subdivisions (a) and (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034, subdivision (c). This matter was re-assigned to ALJ Rita Defilippis, and the prehearing conference was continued to July 7, 2017, at 10:00 a.m..

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: July 6, 2017

DocuSigned by:
Theresa Ravandi
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THERESA RAVANDI
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings