

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Hartford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parents: Father, pro se

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Melinda B. Kaufmann
Assistant Corporation Counsel
City of Hartford
550 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103

Appearing before: Attorney Patricia M. Strong, Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Where the Parent has not filed a complaint that meets the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act and has failed to resubmit a sufficient complaint within 30 days of the granting of the Board's sufficiency challenge, should the case be dismissed?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Parent (Father) requested this hearing by faxing a request for an impartial hearing on May 29, 2009 to the State Department of Education ("SDE"). This Hearing Officer was assigned to the case on June 5, 2009. On June 9, 2009, the Hearing Officer sent a prehearing conference notice to the Parties and a copy of the due process complaint for the Board's attorney. On June 10, 2009, the Board's attorney filed an appearance and requested that the prehearing conference be rescheduled. On June 16, 2009, a prehearing conference was held. It was determined that the Board of Education received a copy of the due process request on June 9, 2009. The mailing date for the final decision was set at August 24, 2009. A hearing date was agreed on for July 15, 2009. On June 24, 2009, the Board's attorney filed a Motion to Dismiss or in the Alternative for a More Definite Statement. On June 25, 2009, the Hearing Officer ruled that the complaint was insufficient because it did not state the nature of the problem of the child or a proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known. The Parent was allowed 30 days to file a resubmitted hearing notice. On July 9, 2009, the Hearing Officer advised the parties that the July 15, 2009 hearing was canceled and that the Parent's resubmitted hearing notice should be filed by July 27, 2009 or the hearing would be dismissed for failure to prosecute. The Parent did not comply with this order or communicate with the Hearing Officer.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

It is ordered that this case shall be dismissed.