

California Special Education Law 2021

Live Webcast

September 30, 2021

9:00 am – 5:00 pm (Pacific Time)

Why You Should Attend

This program is designed to provide attorneys, advocates, school district employees, and special education service providers with an understanding of the latest legal developments in special education law. Experienced faculty will review recent case law impacting California practitioners and then take an in-depth look at the legal and practical implications of these cases on students with disabilities and their educators.

What You Will Learn

- A review and discussion of COVID-19's impact on the education of students with disabilities
- A look at case law that has emerged post COVID-19 school closures
- An analysis of student rights under distance learning plans
- A discussion, lead by practitioners, on the impact of COVID-19 on the classroom and what can be done to mitigate the impact on students with IEPs
- A technical and practical discussion of substantive and procedural rights under the IDEA
- A detailed look at systemic litigation in the area of special education, including when and how system-wide violations of special education rights can be addressed through litigation

Who Should Attend

This program is intended to have a broad reach. It is appropriate for attorneys, advocates, parents, or service providers interested in or currently assisting students/parents or school districts with special education matters. It is appropriate for both new and seasoned practitioners.

AGENDA

Morning Session:

9:00

Opening Remarks

Elizabeth F. Eubanks, Roberta S. Savage

9:15

IDEA Substantive versus Procedural Violations

This panel will discuss the similarities and differences between substantive and procedural violations of the IDEA and how the 9th Circuit and United States Supreme Court address both.

Alexis Casillas, Deborah U. Ettinger, Roberta S. Savage

11:00 Break

11:15

Litigation and Due Process Post COVID-19

This panel will review litigation, including administrative hearing decisions, that have analyzed student rights during the COVID-19 pandemic. This will primarily focus on litigation in California and the 9th Circuit. It may also touch on national litigation efforts.

Diane Beall, Devon Rios

12:45 Lunch

Afternoon Session:

1:45

A Practitioner's Perspective: FAPE During (and After) COVID-19

The global pandemic placed educators and students in an unprecedented situation of attending school via distance learning plans, video conferencing, and independent studies. This panel will take a look at the previous 1.5 years to discuss how COVID-19 distance learning impacted a student's ability to make meaningful progress towards their IEP goals. They will also discuss "lessons learned" to prepare students and educators for potential future closures as well as what happens now that students are returning to in-person learning.

***Melaura Erickson-Tomaino, Ph.D., Edward S. Miguel, Ed.D.,
Melissa Ortiz Nolan***

3:15 Break

3:30

Systemic Litigation

This panel will discuss the role of systemic litigation in enforcing rights and making changes in public school systems.

Elizabeth F. Eubanks, Laura Faer, Carly J. Munson, Janeen Steel

5:00 Adjourn

Faculty:

Co-Chairs:

Elizabeth F. Eubanks

Partner
Rios Eubanks, APC
West Hollywood, California

Roberta S. Savage

Attorney
Law Office of Roberta S. Savage
Davis, California

Diane Beall

Senior Deputy General Counsel
San Francisco Unified School District
San Francisco, California

Alexis Casillas

Legal Director
Learning Rights Law Center
Los Angeles, California

Melaura Erickson-Tomaino, Ph.D.

Co-Founder/Principal
Port View Preparatory® School
Tustin, California

Deborah U. Ettinger

Partner
Atkinson, Andelson, Royo, Romo & Ruud
San Rafael, California

Laura Faer

Deputy Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
California Department of Justice
Oakland, California

Edward S. Miguel, Ed.D.
Co-Founder/President
Port View Preparatory® School
Tustin, California

Carly J. Munson
Staff Attorney
Office of the Attorney General - Children's Bureau
California Department of Justice
Los Angeles, California

Melissa Ortiz Nolan
School Psychologist/Licensed Educational Psychologist
Bay Area Advocate
Walnut Creek, California

Devon Rios
Partner
Rios Eubanks, APC
West Hollywood, California

Janeen Steel
Attorney
Vanaman & German LLP
Sherman Oaks, California

Senior Pro Bono Program Attorney: Christina Thompson