

The E.R.K. Special Education Lawsuit Newsletter

January 2017



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January 2017 Updates

Aloha Class Members, Parents, and Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well and settled into the New Year. With the New Year comes developments and progress in this case. Here's a brief update.

LIST OF CLASS MEMBERS IS FINALIZED

As you may recall, the Court closed the class in September 2016. The final list of eligible class members includes approximately **550 former students**. We fought the DOE on objections to many class members, and those objections took some time to resolve. Although the DOE still has a handful of objections, if you are receiving this newsletter, it is because you are still eligible.

PLANNING FOR YOUR SERVICES

The Court has now turned its attention to the delivery of compensatory education to the class members. We are pushing the DOE to begin services soon, and the Court has stated that it wants services to begin this year. Plaintiffs' counsel and the DOE created the following questionnaire for class members to fill out ([click here to fill out the questionnaire](#)). A hard copy of the questionnaire to you will be sent via postal mail as well. The purpose of the questionnaire is to provide (1) information on the types of services you are currently receiving, but more importantly, (2) the types of services that you wish to receive. We will provide your information to the DOE, and this will guide the free services you will be offered. The information will be used only to provide you services in this lawsuit, and for no other purpose.

ACTION STEPS

We ask all class members to fill out this questionnaire, either online or by hard copy, no later than February 17, 2017. Once a class member's questionnaire is received, the DOE will work on an offer of free education services to that class member. The sooner you return it, the sooner your services will start. Again, you can access the questionnaire by [clicking here](#) or visiting <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ERKClassAction>. If you need help to fill out the survey, call or email us.

GUARDIANSHIP PAPERS

If you are a parent or guardian for a Class Member and have legal papers appointing you as the "legal

guardian" of a Class Member, please forward those documents to us as soon as possible (if you have not already done so). The form can be submitted to us via postal mail, email (zdiionno@ahfi.com), or fax (808-524-4591).

WEBSITE AND FAQ's PAGE

We are continually updating the website with recent court filings, status conference reports, newsletters, consent forms, and other documents related to this lawsuit. You can check in on the status of the case at any time by accessing the website at www.hawaiiclassaction.com/erk or by clicking [here](#). Our [Frequently Asked Questions section](#) addresses questions and concerns raised by Class Members and/or their parents/guardians. Please feel free to email me with any questions that are not already answered in this section and I will post them. It is highly likely that other folks are asking the same questions as you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

If any contact information (e.g., phone number, emails, mailing addresses) for Class Members or their parents/guardians has recently changed, please provide us with the most updated information. We want to ensure that you continue to receive timely updates relating to this case.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, you can contact our offices by calling [\(808\) 524-1800](tel:8085241800) and ask for either Michelle Comeau or Zach Dilonno, or you can email Michelle (mcomeau@ahfi.com) or Zach (zdiionno@ahfi.com) directly. We look forward to connecting with you soon.

Best regards,



Zachary Dilonno, Esq.

