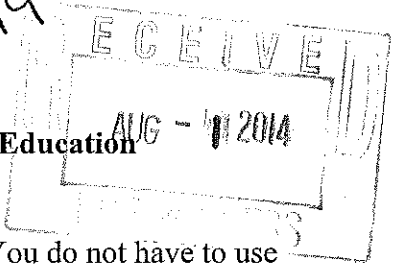


15-0074



Connecticut State Department of Education - Bureau of Special Education
Special Education Complaint Form

This is a recommended form for the filing of special education complaints. You do not have to use this form to file a complaint although it will help you to include the required information. (Questions may be directed to Bureau staff at 860-713-6928.) Please complete this form and forward to the parents or school district (as appropriate) and send a copy to:

State Department of Education
Bureau of Special Education
P.O. Box 2219 - Room 364
Hartford, CT 06145-2219

Date: *7/24/2014 Person/Agency filing the complaint [redacted]

Address: [redacted] Phone: [redacted]

[redacted] (town) CT (state) [redacted] (street) [redacted] (zip) Email: * [redacted]

Parent's Name (if different): * SAME Phone: * SPMB

Child's Name [redacted] (last) [redacted] (middle) [redacted] (first) Date of Birth* [redacted]

Education Agency (school district)* [redacted] CT

Name of School the Child Attends [redacted] Disability Category* [redacted]

Child's Address: [redacted] (street) [redacted] (town) CT (state) [redacted] (zip)

Be specific as to why you believe that a requirement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act has been violated. Include a description of the relevant facts, the nature of the child's problem and a proposed resolution of the problem to the extent known and available at this time. Please forward a copy of this complaint to the education agency. If necessary, you may attach additional sheets as well as documentation of your complaint allegations.

Attached

Signature of Complainant [redacted]

*Information requested is optional

State Department of Education

Bureau of Special Education

P.O. Box 2219 – Room 364

Hartford, CT 06145-2219

Dear Sir or Madam,

My son [REDACTED] is a student at [REDACTED]. He has an IEP for severe emotional disturbance. On May 9, 2014 there was an incident at school which occurred sometime in the morning. He was upset over a project his class was working on got angry and said he would go home and take one of my guns and shoot himself. This is not the 1st time he has used this type of action to deflect punishment for bad behavior. He has gone so far as to fake serious illness at school in previous years so an EMT was called.

I was called at approximately 2:30 PM and told I had to come to the school as there was an emergency situation. I asked where [REDACTED] was and Principal Martin told me "he was safe". I assumed that meant he was in an office with one of the professionals. When I arrived I found out that he had been back in class the rest of the day and that there was no emergency. He came to the office with no idea what was going on.

I met with Principal Martin and Resource Officer Chris Vadas. They explained what had occurred. They then told me I had to take him to the emergency room at Danbury Hospital for an emergency Psch Eval.

I told them that I was not going to take him. He has been working with professionals at the school and we have him see an outside Therapist at our expense to help him with his issues. There is nothing a 20 minute talk with a social worker is going to accomplish. I explained it was a waste of time and money. They were adamant that he go. I explained there was no emergency and that he had an appointment schedule with his therapist and she could go over his actions and speech. They would not agree.

Officer Vadas then said that he could have [REDACTED] committed for 3 days. He went on to say "we can do this the easy way or the hard way". He explained that I could take him which would be best or he would call an ambulance and have him taken against my will. At this point I relented and agreed to take him, BUT THAT I WAS NOT PAYING ANY BILLS FOR THIS USELESS VISIT. I told them the school or the police could pay. I only agreed to take him to avoid further problems.

I left the school and Officer Vadas followed me to the hospital. I explained at admitting that I would not be paying the bill. He said it was only a "consent to treat" not a billing function. When a girl came by to get billing information I told her to send the bill to Principal Martin.

As predicted we waited for a while and a social worker talked to [REDACTED]. She spent most of the time asking him about my guns. He went into great depth about my combination lock and where it was. As I told the social worker he didn't even know where my guns were. They were locked in a gun safe hidden in my closet which has a key lock. He was describing an empty gun case I use for traveling which is on the floor of my bedroom. After this episode I took all my guns out of the house and stored them in a safe place. I told [REDACTED] he could no longer use my guns as a way to get everybody in a frenzie. I only mention this because Officer Vadas made a complaint to DCF.

The social worker/emergency team then released [REDACTED] to go home with me, which is what should have happened at [REDACTED]. I gave the bill to Principal Martin and she responded that I took [REDACTED] for medical reasons and it was my responsibility. I sent it to Cheryl Freestone at [REDACTED] special Ed and she said Principal Martin was correct and it was my responsibility.

The school requested that we allow a Psch Eval with Dr Kaplan in New Haven. We agreed and I drove [REDACTED] to New Haven to meet with the Dr. The school requested and paid for the visit.

It flies in the face of reason, that they would force me to take [REDACTED] for an emergency evaluation at Danbury Hospital, threaten to put him in an ambulance and commit him for 3 days, and have a police officer follow me there to make sure I took him, then say the bill is my responsibility.

This is no different than DR Kaplan's visit except this one was completely against my will. This bill is their responsibility.

It should be noted that a similar event happened when [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] in 2008. My wife was told to take him or they would call an ambulance. They then refused to pay the bill. When she appealed to your dept. the person in question lied and said she refused services and took him on her own. I hope this type of response will not be adequate this time.

Thank you for any help you can give me.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Spak, Christine

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2014 2:49 PM
To: Spak, Christine
Subject: Complaint from [REDACTED]

Dear Christine,

Please accept this email as my withdrawal of my written complaint. The complaint was for my son [REDACTED] who was taken to the emergency room.

If you need anything further please let me know.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]