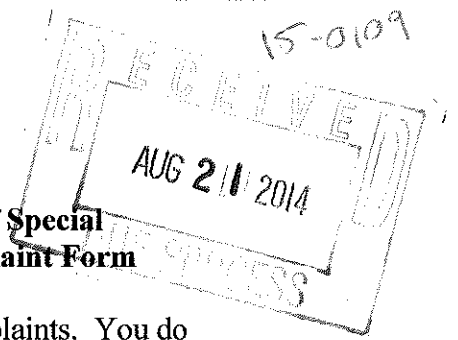


Connecticut State Department of Education - Bureau of Special
Education Special Education Complaint Form



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 860-713-6921 or 860-713-6938.) 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
359 Hartford, CT
06145-2219

Date: 8/19/14 Person/Agency filing the Complaint: Mary Ellen Riccio, surrogate parent

Address: 20G Harbour Village Phone: 203-848-8245
(street)

Branford CT 06405
(town) (state) (zip)

Parent's Name (if different): [REDACTED]

Child's Name Guadalupe [REDACTED]
(last) (middle) (first)

Education Agency (school district) Waterbury Public Schools

Name of School the Child Attends Duggan Elementary School

Disability Category PPT found [REDACTED] ineligible for special education services.

Child's Address: [REDACTED]
(street)

Waterbury CT 06405
(town) (state) (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.

[REDACTED] is 11 ½ years old. She is in the 3rd grade. Her current DRA Level is 20.

I became her surrogate parent in January 2014. I requested a PPT Meeting to determine if

██████████ was eligible to receive special education services. At our PPT Meeting on 1/23/14, Duggan School in Waterbury agreed to evaluate ██████████. At our next PPT Meeting, on 3/6/2014, the team reviewed the evaluations, and determined that ██████████ was not eligible for special education services. I disagreed with the team's decision, and requested an Independent Educational Evaluation. On 5/1/14, the District held another PPT Meeting where they corrected the mistakes they had made on the IEP from 3/6/14. I again requested an IEE.

It has been three months since ██████████ last IEP, and the district has not taken me to Due Process.

As a remedy, I am requesting an Independent Educational Evaluation for ██████████

Mary Ellen Riccio

Signature of Complainant

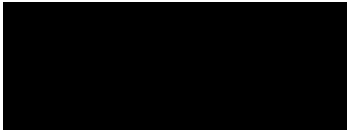


STATE OF CONNECTICUT
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



September 2, 2014

Wendy Owens
Interim Director of Special Services
Waterbury Public Schools
236 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702



Re: [Redacted]
C15-0109

Dear Ms. Owen and [Redacted]

Mary Ellen Riccio, surrogate parent, filed a complaint against the Waterbury Public Schools (district) with the Bureau of Special Education on behalf of the above-referenced student (student) on August 21, 2014. The complaint concerned a publicly funded education evaluation (IEE) of the student. At the time Ms. Riccio filed the complaint, she did not know that [Redacted] had been awarded legal guardianship of the student. [Redacted] told me over the telephone that she did not think the student needed an independent evaluation and that while she appreciated Mrs. Riccio's efforts, she would not be pursuing an IEE. For this reason, the complaint is dismissed as education decision-making authority has transferred from the surrogate parent to the guardian and the guardian does not support the goal of the complaint; a publicly funded independent education evaluation of the student.

The complaint is closed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 860-713-6943.

Sincerely,

Mary Jean Schierberl, Education Consultant
Bureau of Special Education

Encls to [Redacted] *Complaint Resolution Process and Procedural Safeguard Notice*

cc: Ms. Riccio