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Office of School Board Attorney

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL LOCAL HEARING OFFICERS FOR STUDENT EXPULSION CASES**

**COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County regularly retains local attorneys who have been placed on a list of School Board approved hearing officers to serve as impartial hearing examiners in student expulsion cases as allowed by the Florida Administrative Procedure Act.

The original authorized list of hearing officers was first adopted by the Board on September 8, 1976 and was revised and approved by the Board on June 27, 1990 and again on September 11, 1995. Since the last revision, many have resigned for various reasons, including some who have become judges and others who have retired and are no longer available to serve as hearing officers.

The criteria for selection as an approved hearing officer includes being a member in good standing of the Florida Bar, having previous trial experience and attendance at a mandatory training session. The individuals also must agree to volunteer their time as hearing officers.

The following individuals have met the above criteria and are being recommended for placement on the School Board approved list:

Keisha Jackson  
Rhonda Goodman  
John McMath  
Eli Kaplan  
Ed Polk  
Josie Perez Velis  
Vidal Marino Velis  
Adela Daud Estopiñan

There is no cost to the School Board for this item.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve the list of individuals named above to act as impartial hearing officers in student expulsion hearings.