

Office of School Board Attorney  
Walter J. Harvey, School Board Attorney

**SUBJECT: PROVISION OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION TO SCHOOL BOARD EMPLOYEES INDIVIDUALLY NAMED AS DEFENDANTS IN THE MATTER OF: *MARY ORIZONDO v. LOURDES CELA DIAZ, et. al.*, CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 11-17136 CA 30**

This lawsuit was served on the School Board on June 10, 2011 and the individually named Defendants, Lourdes Cela Diaz (Principal) and Richard Vidal (Region Administrative Director), were also served with this lawsuit on June 9 and June 16, 2011, for acts alleged to have been committed within the course and scope of their employment. The lawsuit contains claims for breach of contract, fraud, intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligence.

In accordance with School Board Policy No. 6900 (*Legal Services for Employees of the Board*) and the authority vested under § 1012.26 Fla. Stat. (2010), the individually named Defendants have formally requested that the School Board provide them with legal representation. We are requesting that the School Board authorize the provision of legal representation for Lourdes Cela Diaz and Richard Vidal, the individually named Defendants in the above-referenced case. These employees will be represented by counsel from the School Board Attorney's office. In the interim, the Board Attorney's office will be filing the necessary documents with the Court to protect the Defendants' legal interests.

**RECOMMENDED:** That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the office of the School Board Attorney to provide legal representation for School Board employees individually named as Defendants in the matter *Mary Orizondo v. Lourdes Cela Diaz, et al.*, Circuit Court Case No. 11-17136 CA 30.