

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

SUBJECT: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA v. CARIDAD VALDES, DOAH CASE NO. 11-1010

On February 9, 2011, the School Board suspended Caridad Valdes and initiated dismissal proceedings against her for just cause, including, but not limited to misconduct in office and violation of School Board Rules 6Gx13- 5D-1.07, Corporal Punishment Prohibited, 6Gx13- 4A-1.21, Responsibilities and Duties; and 6Gx13-4A-1.213, Code of Ethics, in accordance with sections 1001.32(2), 1012.22(1)(f), 1012.33(1)(a) and (6)(a), and 447.209, Florida Statutes (2011) and the UTD Contract. A hearing was requested and held on July 5, 2011, before an Administrative Law Judge.

By Recommended Order entered January 24, 2012, the Administrative Law Judge recommended that the School Board enter a Final Order terminating Caridad Valdes' employment and denying any claims for back-pay.

Exceptions to the Recommended Order have been filed by the Respondent. Those exceptions, along with the Recommended Order, the Superintendent's Response to Respondent's Exceptions and the complete Record of the case, will be forwarded to the School Board members under separate cover. The Exceptions seek the rejection of the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Order and the reinstatement of the Respondent to her position as a teacher.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida take one of the following actions in the case of *The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida v. Caridad Valdes*, DOAH Case No. 11-1010:

- (1) Adopt the Recommended Order of the Administrative Law Judge in its entirety as its Final Order; or
- (2) Adopt the Exceptions to the Recommended Order filed by the Respondent and enter a Final Order consistent with those Exceptions.