

Office of the General Counsel
Walter J. Harvey, General Counsel

SUBJECT: PROVISION OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE FOLLOWING MATTER: William Clark and Adah Clark, on behalf of A.C., a minor vs. The School Board of Miami Dade County, Florida, and Hannah Purcell, in her individual capacity, USDC Case No. 25-CV-24478-RAR

On November 26, 2025, The Office of the General Counsel was served with the lawsuit, William Clark and Adah Clark, on behalf of A.C. vs. The School Board of Miami Dade County, Florida, and Hannah Purcell, in her individual capacity, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Case No. 25-cv-24478-RAR. On September 29, 2025, Plaintiffs filed their Complaint, naming the School Board, and the individually-named retired former teacher as Defendants. Plaintiff's Complaint asserts claims against the Defendants for, among other things, negligence, violations of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. These claims are purportedly grounded on an alleged physical altercation between a student and a teacher. The acts alleged against the individually-named employee Defendant arose within the course and scope, and in the performance of her assigned duties and responsibilities as a District employee.

In accordance with the District's established practice, the retired District employee, who is individually-named as a Defendant in this lawsuit, has formally requested that the School Board provide her with legal representation. Accordingly, pursuant to School Board Policy 6900, *Legal Services for Employees of the Board*, and § 1012.26, Florida Statutes (2024), the General Counsel requests that the School Board authorize the provision of legal representation for this former District employee. In the interim, the Office of the General Counsel has and will continue to file the necessary documents with the Court to protect the former employee's and the School Board's legal interests. Should the School Board's interests conflict with those of the former District employee at any point in the litigation, separate legal representation will be sought on the former employee's behalf.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, authorize the Office of the General Counsel to provide or secure legal representation for the legal defense of the retired School Board employee who is individually-named as a co-defendant in the matter of William Clark and Adah Clark, on behalf of A.C. vs. The School Board of Miami Dade County, Florida, and Hannah Purcell, in her individual capacity. USDC Case No. 25-CV-24478-RAR.