

Via Facsimile (213) 897-2430

August 13, 2007

Honorable Joan Klein, Presiding Justice,
and the Associate Justices H. Walter Croskey and Patti S. Kitching
California Court of Appeal
Second Appellate District, Division Three
300 N. Spring St., 2nd Floor, North Tower
Los Angeles, California 90013

Re: *Gliane v. Long Beach Unified School District*
Court of Appeal No. B193345

To: The Presiding Justice and the Associate Justices of the California Court of
Appeal:

The Disability Rights Legal Center join in Plaintiff-Appellant MJ Kevyn Gliane's ("Gliane") request for publication of this Court's opinion filed on July 24, 2007 for the reasons set forth in Gliane's letter on file with this Court.

The Disability Rights Legal Center ("DRLC") is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1975 to represent and serve people with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities continue to struggle against ignorance, prejudice, insensitivity, and the lack of legal protections in their endeavors to achieve fundamental dignity and respect. The DRLC assists people with disabilities in attaining the benefits, protections and equal opportunities guaranteed to them under the Individuals with Disabilities Act ("IDEA"), the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), and other federal and state laws. The DRLC is a recognized expert in the field of disability rights.

The DRLC is especially concerned with the equitable and just application of the IDEA's procedural safeguards that were designed to protect students with disabilities' right to a free and appropriate public education. In the DRLC's experience Gliane's experience is not unique. Through the DRLC's Education Advocacy Project, we represent students facing expulsion. Frequently these students have undiagnosed disabilities, or are in the process of an evaluation for eligibility for special education and related services. Unfortunately, School districts often use expulsion as a guise to remove students from school in excess of days without affording students' their due process rights as required by the California Education Code. Too often these students are not expelled, but have already been removed from school without the requisite procedures. The publication of the Court's opinion filed on July 24, 2007 would have an immediate impact on the lives of the DRLC clients facing unjust removals from school

by educating school districts about their legal obligations to follow the due process requirements that result in keeping students in school.

Sincerely,

Eve L. Hill