

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

I.W. v. Clovis Unified School District

I.W. · No. 1:24-cv-01074 JLT BAM · Decided April 18, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California adopted findings and recommendations concerning approval of a settlement involving a minor plaintiff's claims against the Clovis Unified School District under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and California law. The court granted the motion for approval of the minor's compromise and approved the settlement as fair and reasonable.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Jennifer L. Thurston
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	April 18, 2025
DOCKET	1:24-cv-01074 JLT BAM
DISPOSITION	approved
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	After the parties provided notice of settlement, Plaintiff moved for approval of a minor's compromise. A magistrate judge issued findings and recommendations that the motion be granted and the settlement approved as fair and reasonable. No party objected, and the district court conducted de novo review before adopting the findings and recommendations.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	De novo review under 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C).
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential district court order

TOPICS

- guardianship procedure
- guardian ad litem
- civil procedure
- ada / disability

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- minor's compromise
- disability rights
- education law

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- 1. Whether the magistrate judge's findings and recommendations approving the minor's compromise should be adopted after de novo review.
- 2. Whether the proposed settlement of the minor's claims should be approved as fair and reasonable.

HOLDINGS

- 1. The district court adopted the magistrate judge's findings and recommendations after conducting de novo review and finding them supported by the record and proper analysis.
- 2. The minor's compromise and settlement were approved as fair and reasonable.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Having carefully reviewed the entire matter, the Court concludes that the findings and recommendations are supported by the record and proper analysis.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

I.W., a minor represented by his mother and guardian ad litem, alleged that Clovis Unified School District violated his rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the California Education Code. The parties reached a settlement and Plaintiff sought approval of the minor's compromise. The magistrate judge found the settlement fair and reasonable, and no party objected.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

I.W., a minor proceeding through his mother and guardian ad litem, sued Clovis Unified School District under disability-rights and education laws. Following settlement, Plaintiff moved for approval of the minor's compromise. The magistrate judge recommended approval, Plaintiff filed a statement of non-objection, Defendant filed no objections, and the district court adopted the findings and recommendations, granted the motion, and approved the settlement.

DISPOSITION

approved

CASES CITED

- Wilkerson v. Wheeler, 772 F.3d 834, 839 (9th Cir. 2014)

OPINION

I.W. v. Clovis Unified School District

PER CURIAM.

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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

9 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 11 I.W., a minor, by and through his mother, Case No. 1:24-cv-01074 JLT BAM Ruth Aguirre,

12 ORDER ADOPTING FINDINGS AND

Plaintiff, RECOMMENDATIONS, GRANTING

13 PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF

v. MINOR'S COMPROMISE, AND

14 APPROVING MINOR'S COMPROMISE

CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,

15 (Docs. 21, 26) Defendant. 16 17 I.W., a minor, by and through his mother and guardian ad
litem, Ruth Aguirre, alleges that 18 the Clovis Unified School District ("CUSD") violated his
rights under the American with 19 Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973,
the Individuals with Disabilities 20 Education Act, and the California Education Code. Following
a notice of settlement, Plaintiff 21 filed a motion for approval of the minor's compromise. (Doc.
21.) The motion was submitted to 22 the assigned magistrate judge for the issuance of findings and
recommendations. (Doc. 6-1 at 2.) 23 On April 1, 2025, the assigned magistrate judge issued
Findings and Recommendations 24 that the motion for approval of minor's compromise be
granted and the settlement be approved as 25 fair and reasonable. (Doc. 26.) The Court served the
Findings and Recommendations on all 26 parties, and notified them that any objections were due
within fourteen (14) days. (Id. at 15.) 27 The Court also informed the parties that "the failure to
file objections within the specified time 28 may result in the waiver of the 'right to challenge the
magistrate's factual findings' on appeal." 1 | Cd. at 15-16, quoting Wilkerson v. Wheeler, 772 F.3d
834, 839 (9th Cir. 2014).) On April 8, 2 | 2025, Plaintiff filed a statement of non-objection to the
Findings and Recommendations. (Doc. 3 | 27.) CUSD did not file any objections, and the time in
which to do so has passed. 4 According to 28 U.S.C. § 636 (b)(1)(c), this Court conducted a de
novo review of the 5 | case. Having carefully reviewed the entire matter, the Court concludes that
the findings and 6 || recommendations are supported by the record and proper analysis.
Accordingly, the Court 7 | ORDERS: 8 1. The Findings and Recommendations issued on April 1,
2025 (Doc. 26) are 9 ADOPTED. 10 2. Plaintiff's motion for approval of minor's compromise
(Doc. 21) is GRANTED. 11 3. The settlement is APPROVED as fair and reasonable. 12 B IT IS
SO ORDERED. | Dated: _ April 18, 2025 Cerin | Tower

TED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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