

# GARGANESE, WEISS & D'AGRESTA, P.A.

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**Suzanne D'Agresta**  
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June 19, 2017

**Via E-Mail:** [MMiller@pacificlegal.org](mailto:MMiller@pacificlegal.org)

Mark Miller, Esquire  
Senior & Managing Attorney  
Pacific Legal Foundation

**Re: SDIRC/Schools General - File No.: 1028-028**  
**Vero Beach High School Student Government Association Election**  
**Your Client: J. P. Krause**

Dear Mr. Miller:

As we previously discussed by phone, this firm is general counsel to the School Board of Indian River County, Florida. Your letter of June 6, 2017 regarding the Student Government Association elections at Vero Beach High School has been provided to me for a response. Please direct any further communications regarding this matter to my attention.

As we briefly discussed on June 13, 2017, after careful review of all of the circumstances surrounding the above-referenced Senior Class President election, Dr. Rendell, the Superintendent of the School Board, decided to overturn the Principal's decision regarding disqualifying your client, J.P. Krause, from the election. Dr. Rendell has also directed that J. P. be declared the winner of the Senior Class President election for the 2017-2018 school year. While Dr. Rendell believes the Principal of Vero Beach High School was acting in good faith and attempting to enforce the established rules of the Student Government Association, a number of inconsistencies in those rules as well as other procedural issues caused Dr. Rendell to take this action.


Further, your letter of June 6, 2017 also questioned the discipline referral and harassment charge placed against your client. Mr. O'Keefe, the Principal of Vero Beach High School, has taken the time to review all of the circumstances surrounding this incident, and has now determined he will rescind the discipline referral and will remove that discipline from J. P.'s discipline record. It is the hope of Mr. O'Keefe that J.P. reach out to other candidates who participated in the Senior Class President election process and attempt to repair any relationships that were damaged in this process.

Mark Miller, Esquire  
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Both Dr. Rendell and Mr. O'Keefe appreciate the value of the Student Government Association at Vero Beach High School and look forward to their work in the coming school year.

Sincerely,

  
Suzanne D'Agresta

SDA/slj

cc: Mark J. Rendell, Ed.D., Superintendent (*via e-mail*)  
Shawn O'Keefe, Principal – Vero Beach High School (*via e-mail*)