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THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BEFORE
THE OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE APPEALS

In the Matter of:)	
)	
JOSEPH WILLIAMS,)	
Employee)	OEA Matter No. 1601-0038-14
)	
v.)	Date of Issuance: August 31, 2015
)	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHILD)	
AND FAMILY SERVICES,)	Monica Dohnji, Esq.
Agency)	Administrative Judge
)	
Jean Cox, Employee Representative		
Lindsay Neinast, Esq., Agency Representative		

INITIAL DECISION

INTRODUCTION AND PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

On December 19, 2013, Joseph Williams, (“Employee”) filed a Petition for Appeal with the Office of Employee Appeals (“OEA” or “Office”) contesting the District of Columbia Child and Family Services’ (“Agency”) decision to terminate him from his position as a Social Worker, effective November 21, 2013. On January 22, 2014, Agency filed its Answer to Employee’s Petition for Appeal.

This matter was initially assigned to Administrative Judge (“AJ”) Harris. AJ Harris held several Conferences in this matter. An Evidentiary Hearing was scheduled for March 20, 2015, and later rescheduled for May 14, 2015. The Evidentiary Hearing scheduled for May 14, 2015, was later cancelled pursuant to the parties’ Joint Motion to continue the Evidentiary Hearing. In an email dated May 22, 2015, Agency’s representative notified AJ Harris that the parties had reached a settlement agreement.

Following AJ Harris’ departure from OEA, this matter was reassigned to the undersigned AJ. On August 26, 2015, Agency submitted an executed settlement agreement. Subsequently, in an email dated August 28, 2015, Employee moved to withdraw his Petition for Appeal. The record is now closed.

JURISDICTION

The Office has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-606.03 (2001).

ISSUE

Whether this appeal should be dismissed.

ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSION

D.C. Official Code §1-606.06(b) (2001) states in pertinent part that:

If the parties agree to a settlement without a decision on the merits of the case, a settlement agreement, prepared and signed by all parties, shall constitute the final and binding resolution of the appeal, and the [Administrative Judge] shall dismiss the appeal with prejudice.

In the instant matter, the parties have agreed and executed a settlement agreement, and Employee has voluntarily withdrawn his Petition for Appeal, thus, I find that Employee's Petition for Appeal is dismissed.

ORDER

It is hereby **ORDERED** that the Petition for Appeal in this matter is **DISMISSED**.

FOR THE OFFICE:

MONICA DOHNJI, Esq.
Administrative Judge