Notice: This decision may be formally revised before it is published in the *District of Columbia Register* and the Office of Employee Appeals' website. Parties should promptly notify the Office Manager of any formal errors so that this Office can correct them before publishing the decision. This notice is not intended to provide an opportunity for a substantive challenge to the decision.

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BEFORE THE OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE APPEALS

In the Matter of:)
)
BOLANLE AYINDE,)
Employee)
)
V.)
)
D.C. CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES)
AGENCY,)
Agency.)
)
)
)
)
)

OEA Matter No.: 1601-0027-20

Date of Issuance: August 6, 2020

MICHELLE R. HARRIS, ESQ. Administrative Judge

Jason A Grant, Esq., Employee Representative Milena Mikailova, Esq., Agency Representative

INITIAL DECISION¹

INTRODUCTION AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On January 14, 2020, Bolanle Ayinde ("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's ("Agency" or "CFSA") decision to remove her from service. The effective date of the termination was January 10, 2020. On February 14, 2020, Agency filed its Answer to Employee's Petition for Appeal. This matter was assigned for mediation. On July 15, 2020, Employee, by and through her counsel, filed a notice withdrawing her appeal, indicating that the parties had reached a settlement in this matter.² This matter was assigned to the undersigned on July 20, 2020. The record is now closed.

JURISDICTION

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

¹ This decision was issued during the District of Columbia's Covid-19 State of Emergency.

² See. Employee's Notice of Settlement of All Claims and Request for Dismissal (July 15, 2020).

ISSUE

Whether this appeal should be dismissed based on the parties' settlement of this matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT, ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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 upon, and executed a settlement agreement. Furthermore, on July 15, 2020, Employee submitted a withdrawal of her Petition for Appeal to this Office. For these reasons, and pursuant to the aforementioned code provision, I find that Employee's Petition for Appeal should be dismissed.

<u>ORDER</u>

It is hereby **ORDERED** that Employee's petition in this matter is hereby **DISMISSED**.

FOR THE OFFICE:

/<u>s/ Michelle R. Harris</u> Michelle R. Harris, Esq. Administrative Judge