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PUBLIC COMMENT

TO: Oklahoma State Department of Education

FROM: Kayla A. Bower, JD, Executive Director
Oklahoma Disability Law Center, Inc.

DATE: January 12, 2010

RE: Public Comment on Proposed Seclusion/Restraint Guidelines

Our office recommends that the Department rely on standards expressed by the Council for Exceptional Children, and their subdivision, the Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders:

ATTACHMENT #1: CEC's Policy on Physical Restraint and Seclusion Procedures in School Settings

ATTACHMENT #2: CCBD's Position Statement on Physical Restraint & Seclusion Procedures in School Settings

ATTACHMENT #3: CCBD's Position Summary on The Use of Seclusion in School Settings

ATTACHMENT #4: CCBD's Position Summary on The Use of Physical Restraint Procedures in School Settings

Particularly important are the definitions of both "seclusion" and "restraint" in the position summaries of CCBD. Also important are their guiding principles and recommendations regarding use as based on research-based methodology.