

NEW GUIDANCE ISSUED ON RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOLS TO ADDRESS FORMS OF SEX DISCRIMINATION BY STUDENTS OR SCHOOL OFFICIALS

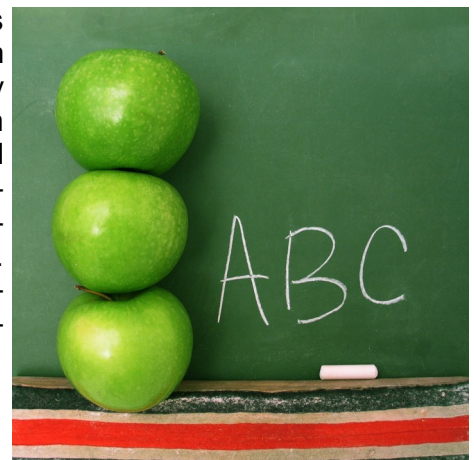
On April 29, 2014, the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights ("OCR") released new guidance describing the responsibilities of public schools to address sexual violence and other forms of sex discrimination under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Schools must ensure that students of all ages are not denied or limited in their ability to participate in or benefit from the school's educational programs or activities on the basis of sex. A school violates a student's rights under Title IX regarding student-on-student sexual violence when the following conditions are met: (1) the alleged conduct is sufficiently serious to limit or deny a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's educational program, i.e. creates a hostile environment; and (2) the school, upon notice, fails to take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to end the sexual violence, eliminate the hostile environment, prevent its recurrence, and, as appropriate, remedy its effects. The guidance clarifies that Title IX applies to all students, including lesbian and gay students, transgender students and undocumented students. The Guidance clarifies school obligations regarding:

- The scope of protection and categories of students protected
- Procedure and notice requirements for schools
- Confidentiality
- Training and education of school staff

Click link below for full summary of the guidance:

[Guidance Summary](#)

For more information about matters discussed in this issue, please contact any one of the KTJ School Law Attorneys.



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