UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS WESTERN DIVISION

U.S. DISTRICT COURT EASTED DISTRICT ARKANSA:

JIM AND SUSAN C., Individually and as Parents and Next Friends of J.C.

4:96CV748 -4:99CV00921 GTE **PLAINTIFFS**

DEP.CLEF

V.

ATKINS SCHOOL DISTRICT and ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DEFENDANTS

ORDER OF CONSOLIDATION

On December 17, 1999, the Plaintiffs, who at the time were proceeding *pro se*, filed a "Notice of Related Case." In that pleading, the Plaintiffs explained that this action, Case No. 4:99CV00921, is substantially similar to another action, Case No. 4:96CV00748, which is currently pending before this Court. The Plaintiffs are correct that the cases are virtually identical because in both actions Plaintiffs Jim and Susan C. allege that the Defendants deprived their son of a free appropriate public education pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("I.D.E.A."), 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et. seq. In fact, the Plaintiffs concede that the only difference is that Case No. 4:96CV00748 also includes Arch Ford Education Services Cooperative as an additional defendant. Hence, this Court finds that these two cases should be consolidated pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 42 because they involve common questions of law and fact.

¹ Docket No. 2.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT Case No. 4:99CV00921 be, and it is hereby, consolidated with Case No. 4:96CV00748, both of which are currently pending before this Court.

It is so ordered this 20 day of March, 2000.

Samet Thomas Cuele

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

THIS DOCUMENT ENTERED ON DOCKET SHEET IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 58 AND/OR 79(a), FRCP ON 3 2200 BY & BOND

FILE COPY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT Eastern District of Arkansas U.S. Post Office & Court House 600 West Capitol, Suite 402 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-3325

March 22, 2000

* * MAILING CERTIFICATE OF CLERK * *

Re: 4:96-cv-00748.

True and correct copies of the attached were mailed by the clerk to the following: BRENDA, PRESS, FILE

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