

Alberta: Special Needs Teacher Fired for Performance, Not Reporting Workplace Violence



A teaching assistant hired on a probationary basis to teach students with dyslexia got repeatedly slapped around by a particular student. She claimed she got fired for reporting the incidents. The employer claimed she got fired for the same reason she got slapped: She didn't follow the teaching protocols for handling potentially disruptive special needs students. The Alberta OHS Officer sided with the employer and found the dismissal wasn't a reprisal for reporting workplace violence. The OHS Appeals Tribunal said the decision was reasonable based on the information available to the Officer and tossed the teaching assistant's appeal [A *Disciplinary Action Complaint Appeal* by Corie Wilson affecting Grande Yellowhead Public School Division, Board File OHS 2018- 10, March 22, 2019].