

**Top 10 OCR Questions Answered****Debbie Osgood**

Hogan Marren Babbo & Rose, Ltd., Chicago

This session will provide an opportunity for school districts to get an insider's perspective from a former OCR official about how the agency works. The goal is to help school districts be ready in case OCR opens (or has opened) a civil rights investigation. The specific "top 10 questions" that will be answered are listed below. Attendees will also have any opportunity to ask specific questions about OCR.

1. How much work is done with a complainant before a school district is notified of an OCR complaint?
2. Do the regions or Headquarters make the final decisions in OCR's cases?
3. What steps can school districts take to better position themselves before an OCR investigation?
4. What is the status of the transgender guidance issued by OCR and the U.S. Department of Justice in May 2016?
5. Why are OCR's investigations of some issues (e.g., sexual violence and racial discrimination in student discipline) so much broader than others?
6. How can school districts best respond to an OCR data request and prepare for an OCR on-site visit?
7. What resolution options are available to school districts under investigation?
8. Can school districts negotiate the terms of the settlement agreements that OCR proposes during negotiations?
9. How much weight should school districts give to OCR letters, settlement agreements and policy?
10. What changes, if any, should school districts expect to occur at OCR with a new administration?