Hello, thank you for the opportunity to provide information regarding how educational institutions resolve Title IX reports. I am a trained J.D. who became a Title IX investigator in 2005, and left the field shortly after the Trump administration published its revised guidance, due in part to the fact that I felt that this guidance created an unduly burdensome process and procedure which disadvantaged the alleged victims of these reports.

It is my strong belief that a “hearing” does not produce a more reliable result than a thorough investigation which affords the parties the opportunity to review the information gathered from the investigation and respond to it, and submit questions to be posed to the other party/parties through the investigator. The Title IX process is an administrative process, and should mimic the process that is used to resolve reports of other civil rights violations in the educational setting.

It is my opinion reached after speaking with colleagues across the country that the process dictated by the Trump administration serves as an extreme disincentive to reporting, which ultimately makes campuses less safe for all students.

The resolution process should be thorough, fair, and should produce a reliable result. That can be achieved without the use of a “hearing” and I strongly oppose including a hearing in the Title IX resolution process.

Leslee Morris