

BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of the)
Educator License of)
JEREMY C. JOHNSON)
DEFAULT ORDER OF
REVOCATION OF
LICENSURE

On September 12, 2019, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Jeremy Johnson (Johnson) in which the Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty and /or Gross Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7018 1830 0001 6178 6513 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. The Certified Mail was returned "Unclaimed" to the Commission. The regular first class mail was not returned to the Commission, and assumed delivered. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated September 12, 2019, and signed by Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director, stated:

"IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING, WITHDRAW YOUR REQUEST FOR HEARING, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, OR NOTIFY THE COMMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT APPEAR AT HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE."

Johnson did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Johnson to be in default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Jeremy Johnson has been licensed by the Commission since August 24, 2016. Johnson's Preliminary Teaching License, with an endorsement in Music (PK-12), is valid from June 24, 2017 through June 23, 2020. During all relevant times, Johnson was employed by the Astoria School District (ASD).

2. On or about November 5, 2018, the Commission received a Department of Human Services (DHS) screening report indicating Johnson may have committed an act of gross neglect of duty and/or gross unfitness. According to information received, Johnson allegedly communicated inappropriately with a foreign exchange student who had attended ASD and was in Johnson's band class. Contact with ASD confirmed they were aware of the allegations and were conducting an investigation, and local law enforcement was conducting an investigation as well.
3. Investigation determined that GF, a female foreign exchange student, attended school in the ASD and was a student in Johnson's band class during the 2017 – 2018 school year. On or about October 20, 2018, shortly after GF returned home, GF received inappropriate social media communications from Johnson. These communications included discussions about sex, masturbation, request from Johnson for nude photos of GF, and Johnson sending GF photos of himself, wearing only shorts.
4. On December 3, 2018, in response to the school district notifying Johnson of an investigation and request for an interview, Johnson, through his attorney, declined the interview and resigned his employment with ASD effective immediately. Local law enforcement investigated Johnson's conduct and, as of this date, have not filed criminal charges.
5. On April 9, 2019, Commission investigator(s) sent Johnson correspondence, formally requesting that Johnson participate in an interview as required by Commission rules. The request included information advising Johnson that a failure to respond to requests for information or participation in an interview could lead to an additional charge of failure to cooperate in a Commission investigation. Johnson's attorney contacted the investigator and advised that Johnson would not be participating in an interview as requested.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Jeremy Johnson's conduct described in sections two (2), three (3), and four (4) above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR

1 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) (*Recognize the*
2 *worth and dignity of all persons and respect for each individual*); OAR 584-
3 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (*Using*
4 *district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations*); OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b)
5 (*Skill in communicating with administrators, students, staff, parents, and other*
6 *patrons*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(f) (*Any sexual conduct with a student*) as
7 defined by OAR 584-020-0005(5); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates
8 OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (*Not demonstrating or expressing professionally*
9 *inappropriate interest in a student's personal life*); OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D)
10 (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and*
11 *conversations at all times*); and OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity*
12 *of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal*
13 *integrity and honesty*).

14 Jeremy Johnson's conduct described in section five (5) above constitutes gross
15 neglect of duty in violation of OAR 584-020-0040(4)(p) (*Subject to the exercise*
16 *of any legal right or privilege, failure or refusal by an educator under*
17 *investigation to respond to requests for information, to furnish documents or to*
18 *participate in interviews with a Commission representative relating to a*
19 *Commission investigation*).

20 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based
21 upon ORS 342.175.

22 FINAL ORDER

23 The Commission hereby revokes Jeremy Johnson's Educator license.

24 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 31st day of October, 2019.

25 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

26 By: Anthony J. Rosilez
27 Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director

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1 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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3 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY
4 BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE
5 SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF
6 ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.