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

In the Matter of the Educator License of THAMES, TA-TANEISHA	)))	DEFAULT ORDER OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND AND PROBATION

On December 16, 2025, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Ta-Taneisha Thames (Thames) in which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 9589 0710 5270 2307 8999 40 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 not returned to the Commission and assumed delivered. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated December 16, 2025, and signed by Rachel Alpert, 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, 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."

As of the writing of this order, Thames has not contacted TSPC. The Commission, therefore, finds Thames 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. The Commission has licensed Thames since May 23, 2018. Thames holds a Reciprocal School Psychologist License (PK-12) which was issued on May 22, 2018, and expired on November 22, 2019. Thames re-applied for licensure on August 16, 2023. Thames application is currently pending the outcome of this investigation.

2. On September 9, 2023, TSPC received an internal referral from the TSPC Background Evaluator. The referral reported concerns regarding answers Thames provided on the character questions on her TSPC licensure application which was submitted to TSPC

on August 29, 2023. Specifically in response to the following questions:

Application Question: Are you currently the subject of an inquiry, review or investigation for alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct by either an employer or professional licensure agency, or any state agency such as a Department of Education, a Department of Human Services, or law enforcement?

> ***Answer: Yes, due to a misunderstanding which unfortunately caused me to be suspended for a total of 13 days in the 2021-2022 school year. This action was reported to the CTC of California recently. This is the first time in almost 30 years of being certified and credentialed that I have had ANY such action and I pray that this will not prevent me from renewing my license with Oregon. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to explain my situation. Dr. Thames***

Application Question: Have you had any adverse action taken on a professional certificate, license or charter school registration by an agency other than the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission? Have you ever been placed on probationary status for alleged misconduct while holding a professional license, certificate, registration or credential by an agency other than the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission?

> **Answer: Yes, due to a misunderstanding which unfortunately caused me to be suspended for a total of 13 days in the 2021-2022 school year. This action was reported to the CTC of California recently. This is the first time in almost 30 years of being certified and credentialed that I have had ANY such action and I pray that this will not prevent me from renewing my license with Oregon. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to explain my situation. Dr. Thames**

Application Question: Have you ever been disciplined by any public agency responsible for licensure of any kind, including but not limited to educational licensure, other than discipline from the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission?

> **Answer: Yes, due to a misunderstanding which unfortunately caused me to be**

suspended for a total of 13 days in the 2021-2022 school year. This action was reported to the CTC of California recently. This is the first time in almost 30 years of being certified and credentialed that I have had ANY such action and I pray that this will not prevent me from renewing my license with Oregon. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to explain my situation.

3. An investigation into this matter determined the following:
   - TSPC reviewed employment records from California and determined Thames held a Clear Pupil Personnel Services Credential in California from June 16, 1999 through July 1, 2024.
   - On April 25, 2022, Thames was suspended for thirteen (13) days by the Los Angels Unified School District based on allegations of misconduct between 2017-2019.
   - Based on this misconduct, the State of California revoked Thames' California credentials on July 23, 2023.
   - Thames did not contest or appeal the findings or the revocation.
   - Thames applied to renew (reinstate) her Oregon Reciprocal School Psychologist license on August 29, 2023, and provided the answers listed above in section two (2) on her TSPC application.
   - A review of NASDTEC conducted by TSPC investigative staff on August 25, 2025, confirmed that Thames' California license had been revoked on July 23, 2023.
   - On September 2, 2025, TSPC investigative staff conducted an investigative interview with Thames via telephone.
   - During the interview Thames denied that her California license had been revoked and stated that she had been "suspended" not revoked.
   - On September 4, 2025, in a follow-up phone interview, TSPC investigative staff again asked Thames if her license had been revoked in California and Thames stated that it had not been revoked, just "suspended."

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct described in sections two (2) and three (3) above constitutes gross

neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations), and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a)(*Maintain the dignity of the profession by respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty).*

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

FINAL ORDER

The Commission hereby issues a public reprimand and four (4) years of probation upon Thames's Oregon educator license. The period of probation will become effective on the date of adoption of this default order. The period of probation is subject to the following conditions:

1. Thames shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division 020.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 20 day of February, 2026.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: Rachel Alpert
Rachel Alpert, Executive Director

NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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