

1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON
3

4 In the Matter of the Educator)
5 License of)
6 TAYLOR L. LEW)

DEFAULT ORDER OF
PUBLIC REPRIMAND AND PROBATION

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9 On September 12, 2024 the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
10 (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Taylor L. Lew (Lew) in which
11 the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First
12 Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 9589 0710 5270 2162 7859 07 to the address on
13 file with the Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for
14 purposes of proving a prima facie case. The first-class mail was not returned to the
15 Commission and the certified mail was signed as delivered. The Notice of Opportunity of
16 Hearing, dated September 12, 2024, and signed by Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director,
17 stated:

18 “IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY
19 PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED
20 UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR
21 REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING, WITHDRAW
22 YOUR REQUEST FOR HEARING, IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, OR
23 NOTIFY THE COMMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT APPEAR AT HEARING, THE
24 COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE
25 THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER
26 DISCIPLINE.”
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28 Lew did not request a hearing. Lew initially engaged TSPC staff in settlement talks but then
29 ignored multiple emails and a voicemail from TSPC staff. TSPC staff sent emails to Lew on
30 November 6, 2024, December 23, 2024, and January 6, 2025. Additionally, TSPC staff left a
31 voicemail for Lew on March 13, 2025. Lew failed to respond to any of these messages from
32 TSPC. The Commission, therefore, finds Lew to be in default and enters the following
33 findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, based on the files and records of the
34 Commission concerning this matter.
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36 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 37 1. On November 4, 2023, Lew digitally signed and submitted an application with
38 the Commission for a Reciprocal Teaching License. Lew was issued a Preliminary

Teaching License on September 9, 2024, valid until February 21, 2028 with an endorsement in English Language Arts (PreK-12).

2. As a part of Lew's November 4, 2023 application, Lew answered "yes" to a character question which included having been placed on leave for alleged misconduct while employed as a licensed educator in Arizona on July 27, 2023. The matter was referred to the Commission's Professional Practices Division for further investigation.
3. Investigation found that Lew was employed as a licensed Arizona educator with the Colorado River Union School District (CRUSD) for approximately five years and during that time Lew was alleged to have engaged in professional misconduct on two (2) occasions. It was determined that on approximately October 1, 2020, Lew transported three high-school aged students from Mohave High School (MHS) on a day trip to Las Vegas, Nevada, without permission from MHS administration. Upon returning Lew invited the students to her personal residence and subsequently smoked marijuana with the students still in the residence. This issue was reported to MHS staff by a patron, and Lew received a written reprimand. It was also determined that on July 27, 2023, Lew dropped a "vape pen" on the MHS campus outside her classroom while students were not present. School administration located the device and tested it confirming it tested positive for marijuana. This matter was investigated by school staff, and Lew received a ten (10) day suspension from employment.
4. TSPC investigation found Lew failed to disclose information related to her professional discipline in Arizona on the character questions of her application. On Lew's application, she answered "yes" regarding previous discipline but only disclosed the incident taking place on July 27, 2023, and did not disclose the October 1, 2020, incident, and corresponding reprimand. Additionally, when referencing the July 27, 2023, incident, Lew also failed to disclose she received a ten-day suspension from employment and instead listed that she was placed on "leave".

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Lew's conduct as described in section four (4) above, constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); *OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (Falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to licensure, employment, or professional duties)*.

FINAL ORDER

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

1 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 18 day of March, 2025.

2 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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4 By:  _____
5 Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director
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10 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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