

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

In the Matter of the Educator)	DEFAULT ORDER OF
License of)	APPLICATION DENIAL AND
LISA J. BERGMAN)	SUSPENSION AND PROBATION
)	

On February 25, 2025, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Lisa J. Bergman (Bergman) 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 0408 4721 30 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 First Class Mail was not returned and was assumed delivered. An additional copy of the Notice of Hearing was also sent to Bergman's last known email address on file with the Commission. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated February 27, 2025, and signed by Melissa Goff, Interim 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, Bergman has not contacted TSPC. The Commission, therefore, finds Bergman 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. Bergman applied to the Commission for an Oregon Substitute Teaching (PK-12) license on August 31, 2024. During the times relevant to this matter, Bergman was previously employed and licensed as a teacher in Montana.
2. On September 27, 2024 TSPC received an internal referral which alleged possible misconduct against Bergman, an Oregon State teacher licensure applicant. The referral

alleged that Bergman answered question #3 on the Oregon State licensure application in a manner that warranted follow-up by the Commission. When approached by Commission staff for more information about how Bergman answered question #3, she failed to cooperate.

3. An investigation into this matter by the Commission determined the following:

- Bergman previously worked for the Alberton School in Montana.
- Bergman applied for an Oregon Substitute Teaching License on August 31, 2024.
- The TSPC reviewed Bergman's application and requested follow-up information from her regarding her answer to question #3 on the application.
- Question #3 reads: "Have you ever been investigated by an employer or any state agency for alleged physical or sexual abuse? Have you ever been place on leave by your employer for alleged misconduct of any type?"
- Bergman's response to question #3 reads: Claims of pushing a student were investigated by a supervisor and I was put on leave for 3 days. Back in classroom after investigation. Completed my contract year."
- TSPC staff contacted school administration at the Alberton School, who indicated that did not feel comfortable speaking to TSPC about this matter.
- On January 9, 2025 TSPC staff asked Bergman to sign a release of information so TSPC could speak to Alberton School administrators about this matter. Bergman refused, indicating that the school had "issues."

- TSPC staff indicated that Bergman had the right to refuse to sign the release of information but informed her that the Commission might not look kindly upon this decision.
- On January 10, 2025, Bergman called TSPC staff and confirmed that she would not be signing or submitting a release of information.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct described in section 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) and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(p) (Subject to the exercise of any legal right or privilege, failure or refusal by an educator under investigation to respond to requests for information, to furnish documents or to participate in interviews with a Commission representative relating to a Commission investigation).

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

FINAL ORDER

The Commission hereby denies Bergman's Oregon licensure application and suspends Bergman's right to apply for a period of sixty (60) days. Additionally, the Commission will require Bergman to complete and sign a Release of Information for the State of Montana to be considered for licensure. The Commission also imposes a four (4) year period of probation which will commence upon the issuance of an Oregon license if granted. The period of probation is subject to the following conditions:

1. Bergman 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 6 day of August, 2025.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 
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.