

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

In the Matter of the Educator )  
License of )  
 )  
JAMILAH AMEERAH RAHIM )

DEFAULT ORDER OF DENIAL OF  
APPLICATION AND REVOCATION OF  
RIGHT TO APPLY  
FOR AN EDUCATOR LICENSE

On September 15, 2014, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Jamilah Ameerah Rahim (Rahim) in which the Commission denied Rahim's application for reinstatement of her right to apply for licensure. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7012 1010 0003 2804 4722 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 receipt was returned to the Commission "signed" on October 23, 2014. The first class mail was not returned to the Commission. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated September 15, 2014, and signed by Victoria Chamberlain, 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 OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE.”**

On November 5, 2014, Rahim requested a hearing. A pre-hearing conference was conducted and a hearing date of June 4, 2015, was established. On April 6, 2015, the Commission received a letter from Rahim's attorney advising that Rahim was withdrawing her request for a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Rahim 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

On or about June 26, 2006, Rahim signed and submitted a PA-1 form as part of her application to register as a student teacher, upon which Rahim responded “no” to all character questions. As part of the licensing process, the Commission conducted a routine background check and found Rahim had a criminal history. The Commission

1 learned that on August 16, 2005, Rahim was convicted of Theft in the 1st Degree,  
2 Identity Theft (3 counts), Forgery (2 counts), and Possession of Forged Instrument (2  
3 counts). These convictions stemmed from Rahim's involvement in an operation that  
4 defrauded retail stores by stealing credit card numbers and phoning in orders to pick up  
5 consumer goods that were later returned for cash. Rahim was ordered to pay restitution  
6 of \$14,524 and was placed on five years of supervised probation. On October 17, 2005,  
7 Rahim was convicted in the state of Virginia for multiple counts of Fraud, Forgery, and  
8 Identity Theft stemming from similar criminal activity. Though physically in Virginia  
9 and Oregon during the commission of these crimes, Rahim was involved in defrauding  
10 stores in Texas, Arizona, Georgia, New Jersey, Illinois, and Arkansas. Based on the  
11 foregoing criminal history Rahim's, "no" responses to the following questions were false:

12 *#8. Have you ever been convicted or been granted conditional discharge by any*  
13 *court for: a) any felony,; b) misdemeanor; or c) any major traffic violation, such*  
14 *as: driving under the influence of intoxicants or drugs; reckless driving; fleeing*  
15 *from or attempting to elude a police officer; driving while your license was*  
16 *suspended, revoked or used in violation of any license restrictions; or failure to*  
17 *perform the duties of a driver or witness to an accident?*

18 *#9. Have you ever been arrested or cited for any offense listed in questions (8)*  
19 *above which is still pending in court?*

20 *#10. Have you ever entered a plea of guilty or No contest relative to any charge of*  
21 *an offense listed in question 8?*

22 On August 21, 2009, Rahim submitted a C-1 application form for educator licensure, in  
23 support of her application for an Initial I Teaching License. On this form Rahim  
24 answered "yes" to the questions which she had answered "no" to on her PA-1 Form.

25 After Rahim submitted her C-1 application form, Rahim had conversations with  
26 Commission staff, in which Rahim explained she did not have to disclose her criminal  
27 history because it could be expunged. However, at the time Rahim submitted her PA-1  
28 form in 2006, Rahim was aware that she had not completed all of the terms of probation  
29 and that Rahim's criminal convictions had not been expunged.

1 The Commission denied Rahim licensure because each of her responses on the PA-1  
2 form provided independent grounds for denial of Rahim's license application as gross  
3 neglect of duty under ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (*falsification or*  
4 *misrepresentation related to licensure, employment of professional duties*), and OAR  
5 584-050-0006(3)(a)(*submission of falsified application*).

6 The Commission also denied Rahim's licensure because the conduct she engaged in  
7 leading up to her convictions, and Rahim's conduct related to student teaching and  
8 licensure application demonstrated that Rahim lacked good moral character and fitness  
9 to hold a license as required under ORS 342.143(2); OAR 584-050-0006(3)(b) and (d).  
10 On November 5, 2010, the Commission adopted a Stipulation of Facts and Denial of  
11 Right to Apply in Rahim's case. The Order denied Rahim application for a teaching  
12 license, and revoked her right to apply for a license for one year, effective November 24,  
13 2010.

14 On March 24, 2014, the Commission received Rahim's application for reinstatement of  
15 her right to apply for licensure. On August 1, 2014, the Commission considered Rahim's  
16 application for reinstatement of her right to apply for licensure.

## 18 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

19 Jamilah Ameerah Rahim, based upon the conduct as described above;

- 20 1. The Commission denies your reinstatement application for the following reasons:
  - 21 a. The information you submitted, along with your reinstatement documents, do  
22 not establish that you possess good moral character, trustworthiness, or  
23 physical and mental health to hold an educator's license; and
  - 24 b. The conduct you engaged in that resulted in your revocation.
- 25 2. The above described conduct provides the Commission with evidence of your lack of  
26 fitness to serve as an educator pursuant to ORS 342.143(2); OAR 584-050-  
27 0006(3)(d) (*The Executive Director has evidence that the applicant may lack fitness*  
28 *to serve as an educator*).

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

1 **FINAL ORDER**

2 The Commission hereby denies Rahim's application for reinstatement and revokes  
3 her right to apply for licensure.

4 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

5 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION



6 By: \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director  
8

9 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

10  
11 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW  
12 MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM  
13 THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE  
14 PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.