

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

In the Matter of the)
Teaching License of)
VINCENT KIRIZA CHIRIMWAMI)

On February 10, 2009, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Vincent Kiriza Chirimwami (Chirimwami) in which the Commission denied licensure based on ORS 342.143(2) and ORS 342.175 through ORS 342.190. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7008 1140 0002 8581 2492 to the address Chirimwami provided to the Commission. The certified mail receipt was signed by the educator and returned to the Commission on February 21, 2009. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated February 10, 2009, and signed by Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director, stated:

"You, Vincent Kiriza Chirimwami, are entitled to a hearing on the proposed action of the Commission. If you want a hearing, you must file a written request for a hearing with the Commission within 21 days of the date of this notice. Attached to this notice is a copy of the procedures, right of representation and other rights of parties relating to the conduct of a hearing as required under ORS 183.413(2)."

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On or about September 5, 2008, Chirimwami signed and submitted an Application for Educator License Form C-1 for an Emergency Teaching License with a Special Education endorsement authorized at the high school level, upon which Chirimwami indicated that he was currently enrolled at Portland State University and expected to receive his bachelor's degree in June of 2009.

1 2. On September 5, 2008, the Commission received a letter from the applying school district.
2 The letter from the district in support of Chirimwami's application does not mention
3 circumstances related to the protection of the district's programs or students requiring this
4 licensure prior to the completion of Chirimwami's educator preparation program.

5 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

6 Oregon Administrative Rule 584-060-0210 allows the Executive Director to consider
7 academic preparation and experience before issuing an Emergency Teaching License. Without
8 a bachelor's degree, Chirimwami is not eligible for admission into the special education program
9 at the Portland State University Graduate School of Education. Special Education is a very
10 specialized area of education practice that requires extensive preparation in order to work with
11 special needs children. In its September 5, 2008, letter to the Commission, the applying school
12 district did not demonstrate extenuating circumstances necessitating the granting of this license
13 in order to protect the district's programs and its students sufficiently to merit the issuance of the
14 license as required by OAR 584-060-0210(1).

15 **ORDER**

16 The Commission hereby denies the application of Vincent Kiriza Chirimwami for an
17 Oregon Teaching License.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED this 4th day of May, 2009.

19 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

20 By: Victoria Chamberlain
21 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
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23

24 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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26 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY BE
27 OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE SERVICE
28 OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ORS
29 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.