

In the Matter of the Educator)
License of)
CATHERINE FRANCES MORRISSEY)

DEFAULT ORDER OF
REVOCATION OF RIGHT
TO APPLY

“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.”

FINDINGS OF FACT

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1 Georgia had been suspended due to testing irregularities for a period of one year
2 commencing on January 27, 2012.

3 3. On or about January 13, 2012, Morrissey was placed on leave by her employer while
4 they continued to investigate the testing irregularities referenced above. On January
5 26, 2012, Morrissey resigned her teaching position in Georgia due, in part to her
6 testing misconduct. Review of the Georgia investigation determined that Morrissey
7 was made aware of the investigation in writing by Georgia officials on February 14,
8 2012. Morrissey signed for the certified letter on February 15, 2012. The letter clearly
9 states that Morrissey was under investigation by the Georgia Professional Standards
10 Commission. On February 22, 2012, Morrissey received another notice from Georgia
11 regarding her right to a hearing. Morrissey, via her attorney, responded to this letter
12 requesting a hearing. Morrissey settled her case with Georgia by consent order on
13 September 12, 2013.

14 4. On September 14, 2012, Morrissey made application to TSPC for licensure.
15 Morrissey answered "No" to all the character questions on the Oregon application.
16 Specifically, question number one, "Have you ever left any educational or school
17 related employment, voluntarily or involuntarily, while under the subject of an
18 inquiry, review or investigation of alleged misconduct? Have you ever left
19 educational or school employment when you had reason to believe an investigation
20 for misconduct was underway or imminent?"; question number two "Are you
21 currently the subject of an inquiry, review or investigation for alleged misconduct or
22 alleged violation of professional standards of conduct by either an employer or a
23 licensure agency?"; and question number three, "Have you ever been placed on leave
24 by your employer for any alleged misconduct?". Morrissey falsely answered "No" to
25 each of these character questions. Morrissey signed and dated her TSPC application
26 on September 3, 2012.

1 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

2 Morrissey's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of
3 ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5)
4 (*Use professional judgment*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (*Knowing falsification of any*
5 *document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to licensure, employment, or*
6 *professional duties*). This conduct also constitutes gross unfitness in violation of ORS
7 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(a) (*Revocation, suspension or denial of a license by*
8 *another state for reasons and through procedures that are the same as, or substantially*
9 *equivalent to, those permitting similar action in Oregon*); and OAR 584-020-0040(5)(b)
10 (*Fraud or misrepresentation*).
11

12 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
13 342.175.
14

15 **FINAL ORDER**

16 The Commission hereby revokes Catherine Frances Morrissey's right to apply for an
17 educator license.

18 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 29th day of May, 2014.

19 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

20 
21 By: _____

22 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
23

24 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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