

BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF OREGON

RECEIVED

In the Matter of the
Application for Student Teaching
Authorization:
HANNAH NICOLE FISCHER

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STIPULATION OF FACTS AND
FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION
OF RIGHT TO APPLY
AND PROBATION

AUG 28 2015

Teacher Standards &
Practices Commission

On or about March 30, 2015, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) learned that Hannah Nicole Fischer (Fischer) allegedly violated Professional Standards and Practices.

After review of the matters alleged, Fischer and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts, the imposition of a thirty (30) day suspension of her right to apply for an Oregon educator license, and a four (4) year period of probation.

This document sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the stipulated sanction to be imposed. Fischer stipulates that there is sufficient evidence in the Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below.

By signing below, Fischer acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following:

(i) she has been fully advised of her rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Suspension of Right to Apply and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Fischer nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) she has fully read this Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) she voluntarily, without any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) she states that no promises or representation has been made to induce her to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) she has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final

Order and has been fully advised with regard to her rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

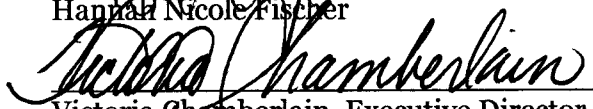
STIPULATION OF FACTS

- 1) Fischer has never been licensed as an Educator in Oregon. On March 30, 2015, Fischer made application for student teaching / practicum authorization by submitting her Student Teaching or Practicum Report (PA-1 application form) . Fischer was a university student at the time of application and has never been employed as a teacher.
- 2) As part of Fischer's application, Fischer appropriately answered "Yes" to character questions regarding Fischer's other professional certification(s) and background. Fischer provided written explanation of her "Yes" answers as part of the application process. Fischer's application was referred to professional practices to investigate Fischer's background and evaluate her fitness for duty.
- 3) Investigation revealed that in 2005, Fischer was licensed for counseling in the States of Oregon and Washington. In 2011, 2014 and again in 2015, Fischer was disciplined by the state licensing agencies of both the state of Washington and Oregon for unprofessional conduct related to counseling and mental health therapy. This unprofessional conduct included boundary violations specific to mental health services provided by Fischer and were not actively related to Fischer "teaching" or being employed as a teacher. Fischer's misconduct resulted in the permanent surrender of her mental health credentials in both states.
- 4) The disciplinary actions of the State Boards of Professional Counselors and Therapists were related to conduct specific to the counseling and therapy professions. Fischer elected to voluntarily surrender her credentials in lieu of a hearing process.

IT IS SO STIPULATED:


Hannah Nicole Fischer

8/25/15
Date


Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

9-8-15
Date

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Hannah Nicole Fischer's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(2) (*An applicant fails to meet the requirement of ORS 342.143 "good moral character" if the applicant engages in gross neglect of duty, gross unfitness, in violation of section (4) of this rule or other acts which are in violation of sections (1) and (3) of this rule*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*).

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

ORDER

The Commission hereby adopts and incorporates herein the above stipulation of facts, conclusions of law, and based thereon hereby imposes a thirty (30) day suspension upon Fischer's right to apply for an Oregon educator license as follows:

Hannah Nicole Fischer's right to apply for an Educator License is hereby suspended for thirty (30) days following the adoption of this order.

Furthermore, the Commission imposes four (4) years of probation upon Fischer to commence upon any future issuance of her license and subject to the following terms and conditions of probation:

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

Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis for the Commission to revoke Fischer's educator license or otherwise impose discipline, after first providing Fischer with notice and opportunity for hearing.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 10th day of November, 2015.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 
Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director