

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

3 In the Matter of the
4 Teaching License

5 LONDON JAMES WOOD

6 | DEFAULT ORDER

7 On January 25, 1999, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission)
8 issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Landon James Wood. Mr. Wood requested a
9 hearing on February 17, 1999. At that time, Mr. Wood was in the custody of the United States
10 Bureau of Prisons, and he requested that the hearing be postponed until his release from custody
11 in the spring of 1999. By letter of April 8, 1999, the Commission scheduled a hearing for
12 May 26, 1999, in the Public Service Building, 255 Capitol Street NE, Salem, Oregon.
13 Subsequently Mr. Wood advised counsel for the Commission that he would not be attending the
14 hearing and would allow the Commission to enter a default order. Mr. Wood did not appear at
15 his scheduled hearing on May 26, 1999.

16 Based on the foregoing, the Commission finds Mr. Wood to be in default and enters this
17 default order based on the hearing record consisting of the Commission's files and records in this
18 case.

19 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

20 1. Mr. Wood was issued a Basic Oregon Teaching License in July 1990. He was
21 employed as a teacher in the Riddle School District, the Grant School District and the Morrow
22 School District between 1991 and January 1996.

23 2. Mr. Wood's Basic Teaching License expired on December 23, 1997.

3. In 1995, the United States Customs Service and the United States Department of Justice conducted an investigation of the transfer of child pornography via the Internet in which these agencies identified Mr. Wood as a person who had exchanged images of child pornography over the Internet. On January 10, 1996, police officials executed a search warrant of Mr. Wood's residence in Roseburg, Oregon. As a result, approximately 100 files containing images of child pornography were seized.

4. On January 18, 1996, Mr. Wood was indicted for distribution and possession of child pornography in the United States District Court. Following the indictment, Mr. Wood fled the Roseburg area and his whereabouts were unknown until he was taken into custody by federal officials in Las Vegas, Nevada, in the summer of 1998.

5. On November 5, 1998, Mr. Wood was convicted of the crimes of Possession of Child Pornography and Criminal Forfeiture. He was sentenced to a prison term of 12 months and one day. He was granted parole in April 1999.

ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Wood possessed images of child pornography and was convicted of the crimes of Possession of Child Pornography under 18 USC Section 2252 and Criminal Forfeiture under 18 USC Section 2253.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The federal crime of Possession of Child Pornography under 18 USC Section 2252 is substantially equivalent to the crime of Encouraging Child Abuse in the Second Degree under ORS 163.686. The Commission is required to revoke the teaching license or to revoke the right of a person to apply for a license if the person has been convicted of a mandatory offense under

1 ORS 342.125 or its substantial equivalent in another jurisdiction. ORS 342.175(2) and OAR
2 584-020-0040(1).

3 The files and records in this case document that Mr. Wood possessed numerous computer
4 images depicting children involved in sexual activity. It is apparent that Mr. Wood knew or
5 should have known that photographing these activities involved child abuse.

6 Possession of such materials by a teacher also constitutes gross unfitness.

7 **ORDER**

8 The right of Landon James Wood to apply for an Oregon Teaching License is hereby
9 revoked.

10 DATED this 15th day of July 1999.

11 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

12
13 By: David V. Myton
14 David V. Myton, Executive Secretary

15 **NOTICE:** You are entitled to judicial review of this order. Judicial review may be obtained by
16 filing a petition for review within 60 days from the service of this order. Judicial review is
17 pursuant to the provisions of ORS 183.482 to the Oregon Court of Appeals.

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