

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

In the Matter of the)
Educator License of)
DEANNA MARIE CINTAS)
STIPULATION OF FACTS AND
FINAL ORDER OF REPRIMAND
AND PROBATION

On or about April 16, 2013, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a report from the Banks School District indicating that Deanna Cintas (Cintas), failed to make a mandatory report of a possible child abuse situation.

After review of the matters alleged, Cintas and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and the imposition of a public reprimand with a four year probation period.

By signing below, Cintas 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 Reprimand and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request to 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 Cintas 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 promise 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

1 attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of
2 the Stipulated Final Order below.

3 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 4 1. Deanna Cintas has been licensed as a School Counselor in Oregon since September
5 23, 2010. Cintas' Initial I School Counselor License, with an endorsement in School
6 Counselor (ECE/ELE, ML/HS) was issued on September 23, 2010, and was valid
7 until September 23, 2013. Cintas did not submit an application for renewal prior to
8 expiration of her license. During all relevant times, Cintas was employed by the
9 Banks School District.
- 10 2. On April 16, 2013, the Commission received a report from the Banks School District
11 indicating that Cintas may have failed to make a mandatory report of child abuse.
- 12 3. On April 12, 2013, a student reported to Cintas, and other involved staff, that he was
13 afraid to go home after school because his teacher had contacted his mother earlier in
14 the day, and the student knew he would be in trouble with his mom. The student and
15 his sister explained that when he got in trouble, his mother would get mad and
16 sometimes physically abuse him by smacking him. Cintas became the primary
17 contact for the students, interviewing them and providing them assistance; Cintas
18 ultimately sent them home without contacting either law enforcement or the DHS
19 authorities. The Principal caused the children to be stopped on their way home and
20 returned to the school, while having local law enforcement contacted to make the
21 required mandatory report of possible child abuse. The administration determined
22 that if they had not intervened in the situation, the involved children would have
23 been sent home to a possible abusive situation, and in their opinion, Cintas would
24 never have made the required mandatory abuse report.
- 25 4. School district reports indicate a total of five instances where Cintas had cause to
26 make a mandatory child abuse report but failed to recognize the need, had delayed
27 unnecessarily before making a required report, and/or had to be told or prompted to

1 make the required report. The district reports they have provided Cintas with the
2 necessary training regarding the mandatory reporting laws and policies and have
3 coached and directed Cintas on several occasions in an effort to correct deficiencies
4 in this area. Cintas disagrees with the district's assertions and a review of Cintas'
5 personnel file shows no formal documentation of prior problems in this area, nor any
6 supporting materials indicating any additional training in the area of child abuse
7 reporting.

JV

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FEB 27 2014

Teacher Standards &
Practices Commission

8
9 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

10 Deanna Cintas
11
12 Deanna Marie Cintas

2/20/14
Date

13 Victoria Chamberlain
14
15 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
16 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

2-28-14
Date

17
18 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

19 Deanna Marie Cintas's conduct constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS
20 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use*
21 *professional judgment*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(s) (*Failing to report child abuse pursuant*
22 *to ORS 419B.010*).

23 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
24 342.175.

25 **ORDER**

26 Based on the foregoing, the Commission hereby orders as follows:

- 27 1. The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
28 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a Public Reprimand on Deanna
29 Marie Cintas's Educators License;
30 2. Cintas will be placed on probation for a period of four (4) years from the date of

1 reinstatement subject to the following conditions:

2 a) Cintas will successfully complete approved training in the area of Child Abuse
3 Reporting and submit documentation of such training as a requirement for
4 renewal of her licensure.

5 b) Cintas shall comply with the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance
6 of Oregon Educators under Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 584, Division
7 020.

8 Violation of any term or condition of probation shall constitute an independent basis for
9 the Commission to revoke Cintas's educator license, revoke her right to apply for a
10 license, or otherwise impose discipline, after first providing Cintas with notice and
11 opportunity for hearing.

12 Issued and dated this 10th day of March, 2014.

13 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**
14 **STATE OF OREGON**

15 By Victoria Chamberlain
16
17

Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director