

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

In the Matter of the Educator)
License of)
WHITNEY SUZANNE SHIPMAN)

On August 17, 2016, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Whitney Suzanne Shipman (Shipman) in which the Commission charged her with Gross Neglect of Duty. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7015 3010 0002 3171 1033 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. The Certified Mail was returned “Unclaimed” to the Commission on September 15, 2016. The first class mail was not returned to the Commission. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated August 17, 2016, and signed by Dr. Monica Beane, Executive Director, stated:

“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.”

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

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Shipman been licensed as a teacher in Oregon since November 19, 2015. Shipman currently holds an Initial Teaching License, with endorsements in Integrated Science (PK-12) and Special Education: Generalist (PK-12), valid from November 19, 2015, through May 19, 2017. During all relevant times, Shipman was employed by the Salem-Keizer School District.
2. On February 12, 2016, the Commission received a report from the Salem-Keizer School District alleging you had violated professional standards. Investigation

1 determined that you were employed as a contracted teacher through an Illinois
2 company called Bilingual Therapies.

3
4 On two occasions during the month of January 2016, Salem-Keizer school district
5 employees reported to administrators that they suspected you were under the
6 influence of alcohol while on school grounds. Being unable to assess or test you in a
7 timely manner, school officials met with you on January 13, 2016, and requested that
8 you report to the building principal both at the start of your shift and again at the
9 end of shift. You were informed that if you were suspected of being under the
10 influence of alcohol again, you would be immediately sent for BAC testing.

11
12 Following the January 13 meeting, you never returned to work, and you never
13 notified Salem-Keizer of your work/employment status. Attempts to contact you by
14 Salem-Keizer School District went unanswered.

15 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

16 Shipman's conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in in violation of
17 ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5)
18 (*Use professional judgment*), OAR 584-020-0030(2)(b) (*Skill in communicating with*
19 *administrators, students, staff, parents, and other patrons*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as
20 it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(2)(a) (*Apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position of*
21 *responsibility only on the basis of professional qualifications, and will adhere to the*
22 *conditions of a contract or the terms of the appointment*) and OAR 584-020-0035(2)(b)
23 (*Conduct professional business, including grievances, through established lawful and*
24 *reasonable procedures*).

25
26 The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
27 342.175.

28 **FINAL ORDER**

29 The Commission hereby revokes Whitney Suzanne Shipman's Oregon educator
30 license.

1 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 30th day of September, 2016.

2 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

3 By: Monica Beane
4 Dr. Monica Beane, Executive Director

5 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

6
7
8 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW
9 MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM
10 THE SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE
11 PROVISIONS OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.

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OF THE STATE OF OREGON

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DEFAULT ORDER OF
REVOCATION OF
LICENSURE

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