

1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON
 3

4 In the Matter of the) DEFAULT ORDER OF
 5 Teaching License of) DENIAL OF TEACHING
 6 JERRY MICHAEL BULL) LICENSE
 7

8 On June 8, 2010, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
 9 (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Jerry Michael Bull (Bull) in
 10 which the Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty pursuant to OAR 584-
 11 050-0006(3)(d), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c). The Notice
 12 was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7009 1410 0002 1902
 13 5399 to the address on file with the Commission. Mr. Bull signed for the Notice on
 14 June 11, 2010. The Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated June 28, 2010, and signed
 15 by Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director, stated:

16 "IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY
 17 PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED
 18 UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR
 19 REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING OR IF
 20 YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN
 21 ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR
 22 SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE."
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24 Mr. Bull did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Mr. Bull to be in
 25 default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law and order, based on
 26 the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.

27 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

28 1. On March 12, 2009, Mr. Bull signed and submitted an application for Educator
 29 License Form C-1 on which he answered "yes" to question 1:

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 31 *"Have you ever left any educational or school-related employment, voluntarily*
 32 *or involuntarily, while the subject of an inquiry, review or investigation of*
 33 *alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct*
 34 *or when you had reason to believe such investigation was imminent?"*
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36 Mr. Bull explained in response to question 1, that while substituting in 1992 in the

1 State of Washington, he was in a relationship with a student. He also explained
2 that while the relationship "did not cross any legal boundaries" it was viewed by
3 others as inappropriate.
4

5 2. As part of his application, he also answered yes to question 4:
6

7 *"Have you ever had a professional certificate, credential or license (of any*
8 *kind) revoked or suspended or have you been placed on probationary status*
9 *for any alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of*
10 *conduct?"*
11

12 Mr. Bull explained in response to question 4, that his teaching certificate was
13 suspended for one year by the State of Washington as a result of an
14 investigation regarding his relationship with the student.

15 3. The Commission's investigation revealed that in May 21, 1993, the
16 Superintendent of Public Education for the State of Washington suspended Mr.
17 Bull's teaching license for twelve months because he (1) made inappropriate
18 sexual comments to students under his supervision in violation of WAC 180-87-
19 060; and (2) made inappropriate sexual advances and had inappropriate sexual
20 contact with students under his supervision in violation of WAC 180-87-080.

21 4. The circumstances leading to the suspension of Mr. Bull's license involved his
22 developing personal friendships with several female high school students that he
23 met while substitute teaching at Sumner High School. The relationships included
24 calling them, going to their homes, and writing personal letters to some of the
25 students. One or more of the letters were written while Mr. Bull was at school
26 teaching. Mr. Bull also developed relationships with two of the female students
27 that involved meeting after school and kissing. When asked if he thought kissing
28 a student was appropriate, he explained that it depended on the motivation.

29 5. Based on the information developed in the Commission's investigation, including
30 his application for licensure and the explanations to the questions submitted with
31 his application, the Commission denies Mr. Bull's license application because he
32 failed to demonstrate that he has good moral character to hold a license.

33 6. The Commission also revokes Mr. Bull's right to apply for a license based on the
34 following:

35 a. Each of the relationships that Mr. Bull had with students constitutes gross
36 unfitness and gross neglect of duty.

37 b. Mr. Bull's explanation in response to question 1 misrepresented the nature of
38 the relationships he had with students by minimizing the conduct, and by
39 failing to disclose that he engaged in kissing with two students.

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1 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

2 Mr. Bull's conduct and relationships with students in Washington constitutes
3 gross unfitness in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); and gross neglect of duty under ORS
4 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A)
5 *(Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a student's*
6 *personal life)* and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) *(Honoring appropriate adult boundaries*
7 *with students in conduct and conversations at all times).*

8 Furthermore, Mr. Bull's explanations of these events submitted with his
9 application misrepresented and minimized the nature of his conduct and therefore
10 constitutes gross neglect of duty under ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c)
11 *(Knowing falsification of any document or knowing misrepresentation directly related to*
12 *licensure, employment, or professional duties).* Mr. Bull's overall conduct through the
13 application process shows that he lacks good moral conduct to hold a license pursuant
14 to ORS 342.143(2) and OAR 584-050-0006(3)(d) *(The Executive Director has evidence*
15 *that the applicant may lack fitness to serve as an educator.)* The Commission's
16 authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS 342.175.

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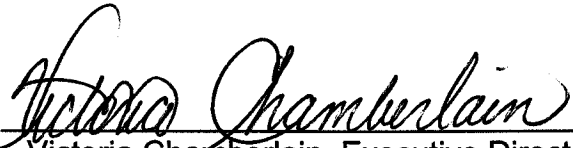
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1 **FINAL ORDER**

2 The Commission hereby denies Jerry Michael Bull's application for an educator
3 license.

4 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 5th day of November, 2010.

5 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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7
8 By: 
9 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director

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14 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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16 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY
17 BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE
18 SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS
19 OF ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing notice of final order, certified by me as such, by mailing U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested, addressed to:

Jerry Michael Bull
762 Lockhaven Dr NE Apt. B
Keizer OR 97303

Dated this 13th day of June, 2011.

By: Melody Hanson
Melody Hanson
Executive Assistant