

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

4 In the Matter of the)
5 Emergency Teaching License of) DEFAULT ORDER
6 JEFFERY AARON SMITH) REVOKING LICENSE
7)
8

9 On or about September 4, 1997, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission received a
10 report from the Superintendent of Vernonia School District, indicating that Jeffery Aaron Smith
11 entered into a Settlement Agreement, effective December 31, 1996, resigning his position
12 subsequent to an investigation into allegations of inappropriate relationships with female
13 students at Vernonia High School. On May 15, 1998, the Commission took action to charge
14 Smith with violation of TSPC Standards. The Executive Director notified Smith of intent to
15 revoke his Emergency Teaching license, and to inform him opportunity for hearing. The notice
16 was dated May 20, 1998, and was signed by David V. Myton, Executive Director and sent by
17 U.S. First Class and Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the two last known addresses
18 in Smith's licensure file. All mailings were returned to TSPC marked "Moved Left no Address,
19 Unable to Forward, Return to Sender." Under OAR 584-050-0042 educators are required to
20 report changes of address to the Commission within 90 days of such change. Smith has not
21 provided this information to TSPC. Smith did not request a hearing.
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23 FINDINGS OF FACT
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- 25 1. Jeffery Aaron Smith holds an Emergency Teaching License endorsed in technology
26 education for Vernonia School District and valid from October 2, 1996 to October 2,
27 1998.
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- 29 2. On November 7, 1997, Jeffery Smith contacted SJ, a female student from Vernonia
30 High School, and asked her to meet him off campus for lunch in violation of OAR 584-
31 020-0040(4).
32
- 33 3. On November 14, 1997, Jeffery Smith was alone in the shop with SJ, a female student
34 from Vernonia High School. Smith told her that she is beautiful, has a lovely figure and
35 that he would like to see her outside of school in violation of OAR 584-020-0040(4).
36
- 37 4. Smith made inappropriate comments to female students regarding their figure,
38 appearance and size of breasts in violation of OAR 584-020-0040(4).
39
- 40 5. Smith engaged in discussions with female students regarding their personal problems
41 and offered advice and counseling that exceeded his competence or role as an industrial
42 arts teacher in violation of OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o).
43
- 44 6. Smith inappropriately revealed too much information about his personal life in
45 discussions with students including sharing information with students about
46 accusations by a 17-year-old regarding sexual comments to her in violation of OAR 584-
47 020-0040(o).
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49 ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT
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51 Jeffery Aaron Smith violated OAR 584-020-0040(4) in his inappropriate and overly personal
52 relationships with female students at Vernonia High School.
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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Mr. Smith's conduct constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of OAR 584-020-004(4).

OPINION

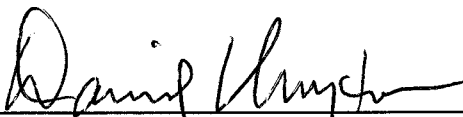
Mr. Smith's conduct created an uncomfortable learning environment for female students at Vernonia High School. His comments to student SJ were an attempt to establish an inappropriate relationship in violation of trust placed in educators.

ORDER

The Commission revokes the Oregon Emergency Teaching License #298040, issued to Jeffery Aaron Smith, , for violation of OAR 584-020-0040 by his overly personal and inappropriate relationships with female students.

Dated this 14th day of July, 1998.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 
David V. Myton, Executive Director

NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS

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

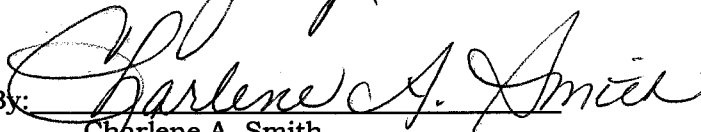
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing order by mailing a true copy thereof certified by me as such by regular U.S. mail and by U.S. Certified Mail with Return Receipt Requested to:

Jeffery Aaron Smith
7521 NE 104th Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98662

Dated this 15th day of July, 1998.

By: 
Charlene A. Smith
Executive Assistant to the Commission