

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

In the Matter of the Administrative &
Teaching License of

RUSSELL ALEX JOKI

STIPULATION AND ORDER OF
REPRIMAND

The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing on March 19, 2002 to Russell Alex Joki, proposing to impose discipline under ORS 342.177. Mr. Joki requested a hearing to contest the allegations in the notice. On January 22, 2003, the Commission issued an Amended Notice of Hearing. Thereafter, the Commission and Mr. Joki reviewed the matters alleged and have now agreed that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and the issuance of a public reprimand.

In entering into this stipulation, Mr. Joki waives his right to a hearing and understands that the Commission will issue a public reprimand. This stipulation and order are contingent on approval by the full Commission. If the Commission does not approve this stipulation and proposed order, it is understood that any waiver of rights by Mr. Joki is therefore revoked. It is further understood that the statements contained in the stipulation may not be used by either the Commission or Mr. Joki for any reason if the Commission fails to approve the stipulation and proposed order.

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STIPULATED FACTS

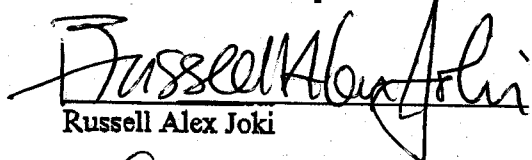
Mr. Joki and the Commission stipulate as follows:

1. Russell Alex Joki holds a Standard Oregon Administrative License with a superintendent endorsement. He served as the superintendent of the Tigard-Tualatin School District from 1985 until January 2000 when he resigned from his position with the district.
2. In the winter and spring of 1999, the Human Services Director position for the Tigard-Tualatin School District was vacant. Mr. Joki assumed some of the responsibilities of the director, including investigation of allegations of teacher misconduct.
3. Kurt King was employed as a middle school teacher for the district during the 1998-99 school year. Maven Huffman was a volunteer coach for the school district during the 1998-99 school year, and the district hired him as a middle school teacher beginning in September 1999.
4. On about May 22, 1999, Mr. King and Mr. Huffman were house-sitting and placed in charge of the the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Laswell in Tigard, Oregon. At that time, Mr. and Mrs. Laswell's two sons attended Tigard High School and were present at the home on May 22.
5. A group of high school students attended a party at the Laswell home where Mr. Huffman and Mr. King were present on May 22. Several students consumed alcohol at the party.
6. In June 1999, the Tigard Police Department conducted an investigation of the incident. Police Officer Timothy Zeller issued a report on June 8, 1999, containing information that a group of students had consumed alcohol at the party, that Mr. King and Mr. Huffman were aware of the students' drinking and had furnished alcohol to some of the students.

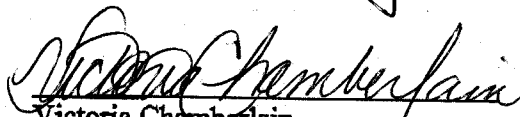
7. The police department informed the school district of Officer Zeller's investigation and conclusions. Mr. Joki was informed of the investigation.

8. Mr. King and Mr. Huffman were not criminally prosecuted for the incidents that occurred on May 22, 1999.

9. Mr. Joki did not make a report to the Commission or otherwise inform the Commission that Mr. King or Mr. Huffman may have furnished alcohol to minors in violation of their professional responsibilities.


Russell Alex Joki

03/04/03
Date


Victoria Chamberlain,
Executive Director

3-20-03
Date

CONCLUSION OF LAW

Mr. Joki violated OAR 584-020-0040(4)(m) by failing to report to the Commission that Mr. King and Mr. Huffman may have violated professional standards by furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors.

DISCUSSION AND ORDER

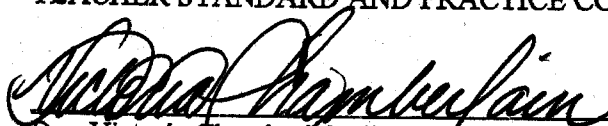
Although the two teachers were not prosecuted, Mr. Joki had an obligation to consider the information available to him concerning the behavior of these teachers. Mr. Joki had sufficient information to conclude that these teachers may have committed acts constituting gross neglect of duty. He did not follow up on this information or make a report to the Commission. As superintendent of the district, he had an obligation to do so.

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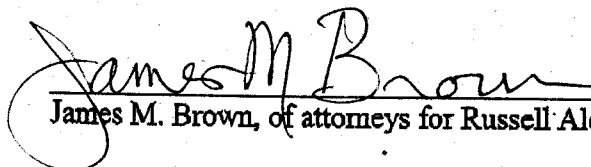
The Commission issues a public reprimand against Russell Alex Joki. This Stipulation and Order shall serve as the public reprimand.

DATED this 8th day of May, 2003.

TEACHER STANDARD AND PRACTICE COMMISSION


By: Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director

Approved as to Form:


James M. Brown, of attorneys for Russell Alex Joki