

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

<p>In the Matter of the Teaching License of MILTON BERT THURSAM</p>	<p>))))</p>	<p>STIPULATION OF FACTS AND ORDER OF REVOCATION</p>
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On October 31, 2000, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a report from Skip Liebertz, Superintendent, Willamette Educational Service District. The report alleged that Milton Bert Thursam violated Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators by, "... bringing contraband (tobacco) into the MacLaren Youth Correction facility, using it himself on that site and providing tobacco to some of his students."

After a review of the matters alleged, Mr. Thursam and the Commission have agreed that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation of facts and a voluntary surrender of Mr. Thursam' Oregon Teaching License in accordance with OAR 584-050-0027. In entering into this stipulation, Mr. Thursam waives his right to a hearing and understands that the Commission will accept the voluntary surrender of his license and will revoke the license.

Mr. Thursam enters into this Stipulation of Facts with knowledge the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission will revoke his Oregon Teaching License. This stipulation is contingent on approval and adoption of the order by the Commission. If the Commission does not adopt this order, neither Mr. Thursam nor the Commission are bound by these stipulations and he retains all rights to a hearing on the allegations.

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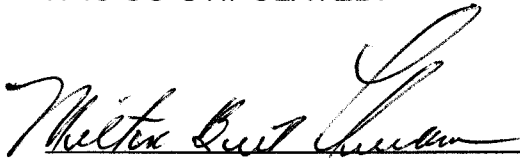
1 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

2 1. Mr. Thursam holds a Three-Year Professional Technical Teaching License
3 issued by the Commission on February 8, 2000, valid until November 9, 2003. He has
4 been licensed by the Commission since February 2, 1995. There are no prior
5 complaints on file.

6 2. Mr. Thursam taught at Lord High School, MacLaren Youth Correction Facility
7 beginning in 1996 until resignation October 25, 2000. On or about October 24, 2000,
8 during a State Police Investigation regarding tobacco use by juvenile inmates, Thursam
9 admitted that he had given the inmates cigarettes and allowed them to smoke in his
10 classes.

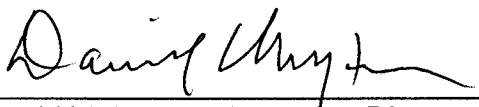
11 3. On or about April 27, 2001, Mr. Thursam pled guilty and was convicted of one
12 count of Official Misconduct in Marion County Circuit Court. The Judgment was entered
13 on May 1, 2001. The Court placed Mr. Thursam on Probation for 18 months,
14 supervised by Marion County Corrections, and ordered him to pay of a Unitary
15 Assessment of \$65.00.

16 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

17 
18 _____
19 Milton Bert Thursam

6/7/01

Date

20 
21 _____
22 David V. Myton, Executive Director
23 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

6/6/01

Date

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1 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

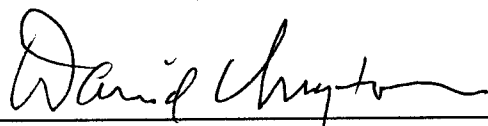
2 Milton Bert Thursam violated Standards of Competent and Ethical Performance
3 of Oregon Educators by providing tobacco to inmate students at the MacLaren Youth
4 Correction Facility in violation of Oregon State Law and Oregon Youth Authority Policy.
5 The above conduct constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of OAR 584-020-
6 0040(4)(n) and gross unfitness as defined by OAR 584-020-0040(5)(c).

7 **ORDER**

8 Based on the foregoing the Commission accepts the voluntary surrender of
9 Mr. Thursam's teaching license and revokes the license.

10 DATED THIS 11th day of July 2001.

11 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

12 By: 
13 _____
14 David V. Myton, Executive Director
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