

1 attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of
2 the Stipulated Final Order below.

3 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

- 4 1. The Commission has licensed Mr. Combe since February 3, 2000. Mr. Combe recently
5 held an Emergency Administrator License that expired July 15, 2009 and currently holds
6 a Restricted Transitional Teaching License that expires May 1, 2010.
- 7 2. From 1996 to 2004, Mr. Combe was employed by the Union Baker Education Service
8 District. He was assigned as a teacher/coordinator of UBESD alternative education
9 programs. During 2004, the UBESD was investigated on allegations of money theft;
10 fraud, and other financial improprieties. As part of the investigation of the UBESD, Mr.
11 Combe was interviewed by Oregon State Police and Department of Justice
12 investigators.
- 13 3. During the course of the UBESD investigation, Mr. Combe admitted to submitting one or
14 more travel reimbursement claims to the UBESD for mileage that he did not incur while
15 employed by the UBESD. He claimed reimbursement for personal mileage when he
16 actually drove a UBESD vehicle on business, or when he did not make the trip claimed.
17 Mr. Combe asserts that these reimbursements were actually related to other, non-travel,
18 work-related expenses, and that he had followed his supervisor's direction in
19 categorizing them as travel-expense reimbursement requests.
- 20 4. Mr. Combe fully cooperated with, and assisted, law enforcement officials in their
21 investigation into wide-ranging allegations of impropriety involving a number of UBESD
22 staff and administrators.

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1 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

2

3 Matthew L. Combe
4 Matthew Lynn Combe

10-27-09
Date

5 Victoria Chamberlain
6 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director
7 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission
8

11-09-09
Date

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CONCLUSION OF LAW

- 10 1. Mr. Combe submitted one or more improper claims for travel reimbursement, as
 11 described in paragraph 3 above. This conduct constituted gross neglect of duty under
 12 ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(c) (*Knowing falsification/misrepresentation*
 13 *related to employment, licensure or professional duties*); OAR 584-020-0040(o) as it
 14 incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of the profession by*
 15 *respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*).
- 16 2. Mr. Combe submitted one or more improper claims for travel reimbursement, as
 17 described in paragraph 3 above. Any of this conduct is grounds for denial of Mr.
 18 Combe's teaching or administrative license under ORS 342.143(2) because he failed to
 19 show good moral character or trustworthiness to hold a license; and the provisions of
 20 OAR 584-050-0006(3)(d).

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ORDER

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The Restricted Transitional Teaching License of Matthew Lynn Combe is
suspended for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this order and his right to
apply for an administrator license is revoked for the same thirty (30) day period.

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Issued and dated this 9th day of November, 2009.

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**TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
STATE OF OREGON**

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By Victoria Chamberlain
Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director