

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

In the Matter of the)
 Educator License of)
 DANNY LEE CEIPLIS)

DEFAULT ORDER OF
 REVOCATION AND REVOCATION
 OF RIGHT
 TO APPLY FOR LICENSURE

On September 13, 2017, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Danny Lee Ceiplis (Ceiplis) in which the Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty and Gross Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail Receipt 7016 1370 0000 0901 8962 to the address on file with the Commission. The Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima facie case. The Certified Mail was not returned to the Commission. The regular first class mail was not returned to the Commission, and assumed delivered. The Notice of Opportunity for Hearing, dated September 13, 2017, and signed by Trent Danowski, Co-Interim Executive Director, stated:

“IF A REQUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR AT A HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE.”

Ceiplis did not request a hearing. The Commission, therefore, finds Ceiplis to be in default and enters the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and final order, based on the files and records of the Commission concerning this matter.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Danny Lee Ceiplis has been licensed by the Commission since April 7, 2005. Ceiplis held an Initial II Teaching License, with an endorsement in Multiple Subjects Self-Contained (ECE, ELE), that was valid from May 22, 2014, through May 21, 2017. During all relevant times, Ceiplis was employed by the Salem-Keizer School District.
2. On July 22, 2016, the Commission received a report from the Salem Keizer School District indicating Ceiplis was the subject of an investigation related to allegations of misconduct, including sexual conduct with a student. Subsequent school district, law

1 enforcement, and Commission investigations determined that between 2004 and
2 2010, for a period of approximately six years, Ceiplis engaged in sexual conduct with
3 a minor child. Ceiplis' conduct continued after the child reached the age of 18, for
4 another three years, 2010 through 2013.

5 3. Investigation determined that beginning in the summer of 2004, Ceiplis began
6 engaging in mutual / group masturbation with a then 12 year old male. Ceiplis and
7 the child would regularly undress and masturbate together. Ceiplis' conduct
8 continued monthly for approximately nine years (six years when the victim was a
9 minor, and another three years after he became an adult). Sometimes Ceiplis would
10 touch the child's penis to get him started or show him how. Ceiplis built several
11 homemade masturbation devices and occasionally used them together with the child
12 when they masturbated. During Ceiplis' interviews with law enforcement, Ceiplis
13 admitted he had a sexual attraction to pubescent boys age 12 to 18.

14 4. On July 14, 2016, Ceiplis was charged in the Marion County Circuit Court with two
15 (2) counts of Attempt to commit a Class A Felony (Using a Child in a Display of
16 Sexually Explicit Conduct, ORS 163.670), four counts of Using a Child in a Display of
17 Sexually Explicit Conduct, ORS 163.670, and one count of Sexual Abuse in the Third
18 Degree, ORS 163.415. On March 15, 2017, as part of a plea agreement, Ceiplis was
19 convicted of two counts of Attempt to Commit a Class A Felony (Using a Child in a
20 Display of Sexually Explicit Conduct, ORS 163.670), and one count of Sexual Abuse
21 in the Third Degree, ORS 163.415. Ceiplis was sentenced in part, to a total of 180
22 days in jail, 60 months of probation supervision, and required to register as a sex
23 offender.

24 **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

25 Danny Lee Ceiplis' criminal convictions constitute gross neglect of duty in
26 violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-
27 020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); and OAR 584-020-0040(1) (*The*
28 *Commission will deny, revoke or deny the right to apply for a license or charter school*
29 *registration to any applicant or educator who, has been convicted of any of the crimes*
30 *listed in ORS 342.143, or the substantial equivalent of any of those crimes if convicted*
31 *in another jurisdiction*), including ORS 163.670 – *Using a Child in a Display of*

1 *Sexually Explicit Conduct, and ORS 163.415 –Sex Abuse in the Third Degree.* This
2 conduct also constitutes gross unfitness in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-
3 020-0040(5)(c) (*Conviction of violating any federal, state, or local law. A conviction*
4 *includes any final judgment of conviction by a court whether as the result of guilty*
5 *plea, no contest plea or any other means*); OAR 584-020-0040(5)(d) (*Commission of*
6 *an act listed in OAR 584-020-0040(1)*); and OAR 584-020-0040(5)(e) (*Admission of or*
7 *engaging in acts constituting criminal conduct, even in the absence of a conviction*).
8

9 Pursuant to ORS 342.175(3) and OAR 584-020-0040(1) the Teacher Standards
10 and Practices Commission must revoke Ceiplis’ license and Ceiplis’ right to apply for a
11 license based on conviction of any of the crimes listed in ORS 342.143(3)(a), or the
12 substantial equivalent of any of those crimes.
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14 Furthermore, the conduct underlying Ceiplis’ indictments and convictions
15 constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-
16 0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use professional judgment*); OAR
17 584-020-0040(4)(k) (*Violation of any rule or order of the Commission*); OAR 584-
18 020-0040(4)(f) (*Any sexual conduct with a student*) as defined by OAR 584-020-
19 0005(5); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D)
20 (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations*
21 *at all times*); and OAR 584-020-0035(3)(a) (*Maintain the dignity of the profession by*
22 *respecting and obeying the law, exemplifying personal integrity and honesty*).

23 Additionally, Ceiplis’ criminal convictions and conduct related to Ceiplis’ convictions
24 constitute “gross unfitness” in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(c); OAR 584-020-0040(3)(c)
25 and (d) as defined by OAR 584-020-0040 (5) (*Gross unfitness is any conduct which*
26 *renders an educator unqualified to perform his or her professional responsibilities*).
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28 The Commission’s authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS
29 342.175.

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1 **FINAL ORDER**

2 The Commission hereby revokes Danny Lee Ceiplis' teaching license and his right
3 to apply for licensure.

4 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 25th day of October, 2017.

5 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

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7 By: _____
8 Trent Danowski, Co-Interim Executive Director
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12 **NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS**

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