



Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

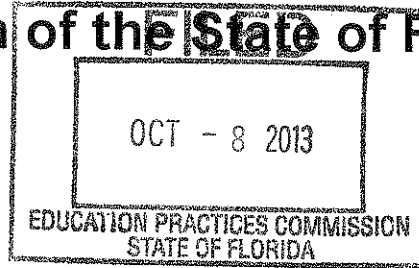
PAM STEWART,
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

RHEA PLAUT COHEN,

Respondent



EPC CASE N^o: 13-0088-RT
DOAH CASE N^o: 12-2859TTS
INDEX N^o: **13-253-FOF**
PPS N^o: 112-1288
CERTIFICATE N^o: 866975

Final Order

This matter was heard by a Teacher Panel of the Education Practices Commission pursuant to Sections 1012.795, 1012.796 and 120.57(1), Florida Statutes, on September 13, 2013, in Tallahassee, Florida, for consideration of the Amended Recommended Order entered in this case by Claude B. Arrington, Administrative Law Judge dated July 16, 2013. Respondent was not present, but represented by counsel.

Respondent filed Exceptions to the Amended Recommended Order. A copy of those Exceptions is attached to and incorporated by reference. After reviewing the complete record accompanying the Amended Recommended Order, the Amended Recommended Order, the Exceptions, and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission rules on the exceptions as follows:

The Commission denied all of the requested exceptions stating that the ALJ's ruling was more reasonable.

The Panel hereby adopts the findings of fact, (paragraphs 1-26), conclusions of law, (paragraphs 29, 32, 36-43, 45-51) contained in the Amended Recommended Order. A

copy of the Amended Recommended Order is attached hereto.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that:

1. The Respondent's Florida educator's certificate is hereby suspended for a period of 5 years of the date of this Final Order.

2. Upon employment in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate, Respondent shall be placed on 3 employment years of probation with the conditions that during that period, she shall:

A. Immediately notify the investigative office in the Department of Education upon employment or termination of employment in the state in any public or private position requiring a Florida educator's certificate.

B. Have Respondent's immediate supervisor submit annual performance reports to the investigative office in the Department of Education.

C. Pay to the Commission during the first 6 months of each probation year the administrative costs (\$150) of monitoring probation assessed to the educator.

D. Violate no law and shall fully comply with all district school board policies, school rules, and State Board of Education rules.

E. Satisfactorily perform all assigned duties in a competent, professional manner.

F. Bear all costs of complying with the terms of a final order entered by the Commission.

G. Provide a certified college transcript to verify successful (a grade of "pass" or a letter grade no lower than a "B") completion of 3 hours of college level course-work in each the area(s) of ESE and Classroom Management within the first year of probation.

This Order takes effect upon filing with the Clerk of the Education Practices Commission.

DONE AND ORDERED, this 4th day of **October**, 2013.



MARK STRAUSS, Presiding Officer

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Bureau of Professional Practices

Bureau of Teacher Certification

Florida Administrative Law Reports

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DOE counsel for PPS

Rachel Clark
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Claude B. Arrington
Administrative Law Judge
Division of Administrative Hearings
1230 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1550

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO JUDICIAL REVIEW

A PARTY WHO IS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THIS FINAL ORDER IS ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW PURSUANT TO SECTION 120.68, FLORIDA STATUTES. REVIEW PROCEEDINGS ARE GOVERNED BY THE FLORIDA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE. SUCH PROCEEDINGS ARE COMMENCED BY FILING ONE COPY OF A NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH THE EDUCATION PRACTICES COMMISSION AND A SECOND COPY, ACCOMPANIED BY FILING FEES PRESCRIBED BY LAW, WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL, FIRST DISTRICT, OR WITH THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL IN THE APPELLATE DISTRICT WHERE THE PARTY RESIDES. THE NOTICE OF APPEAL MUST BE FILED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF RENDITION OF THIS ORDER.

Final Order
Rhea Plaut Cohen
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Claudia Llado, Clerk
Division of Administrative Hearings

Probation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Order was furnished to Rhea Plaut Cohen, 7698 San Mateo Drive, Boca Raton, Florida 33433 and Robert F. McKee, Esquire, 1718 East 7th Avenue, Suite 301, Tampa, Florida 33605 by Certified U.S. Mail and by electronic mail to Paul Rendleman, Assistant General Counsel, Suite 1232, Turlington Building, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400 and Charles Whitelock, Esquire, 300 Southeast 13th Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316-1924 this 8th day of **October**, 2013.



Janice Harris,
Education Practices Commission