



Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

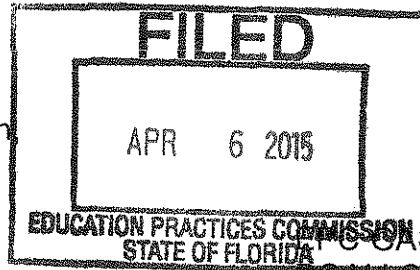
PAM STEWART
Commissioner of Education

Petitioner,

vs.

THERESA CATHERINE ACKERMAN,

Respondent



DOAH CASE N^o: 14-0118-RT
DOAH CASE N^o: 14-4055PL
INDEX N^o: **15-014-FOF**
PPS N^o: 123-2529
CERTIFICATE N^o: 972355

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 February 26, 2015, in Panama City, Florida, for consideration of the Recommended Order entered in this case by Lisa Shearer Nelson, Administrative Law Judge dated December 22, 2014. Respondent was not present.

After reviewing the complete record accompanying the Recommended Order, the Recommended Order, and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission hereby adopts the findings of fact, (paragraphs 1-17), conclusions of law, (paragraphs 18-33). A copy of the Recommended Order is attached and incorporated herein.

The Commission further finds aggravating circumstances to enhance the penalty. In paragraph 29 of the Recommended Order the ALJ found that Respondent engaged in a series of false statements and decisions that are irreconcilable to the standards she has pledged to uphold. At pages 62 through 64 of the hearing transcript, Respondent displayed complete ignorance of the standards of professional conduct applicable to

educators.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that:

1. The Respondent's Florida educator's certificate is hereby suspended for a period of 2 years from the date of the 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 the area of Ethics, which may be taken online, within the probationary period.

3. Respondent is assessed an administrative fine of \$1,000.00 to be paid within one year from the date of the Final Order.

4. The recommended penalty is enhanced by the addition of the restriction on Respondent's scope of practice to prohibit handling school funds.

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

DONE AND ORDERED, this 1st day of **April**, 2015.



C. DAVID SCHNEIDER, Presiding Officer

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Bureau of Professional Practices

Bureau of Teacher Certification

Superintendent
Duval County Schools
1701 Prudential Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8182

Professional Standards
Duval County Schools
1701 Prudential Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8182

DOE counsel for PPS

Lee Ann Gustafson
Assistant Attorney General

Lisa Shearer Nelson
Administrative Law Judge
Division of Administrative Hearings
1230 Apalachee Parkway
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1550

Claudia Llado, Clerk
Division of Administrative Hearings

Probation

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.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Order was furnished to Theresa Catherine Ackerman, 4722 Leah Creek Drive, Jacksonville, Florida 32257 by Certified U.S. Mail and by electronic mail to Bonnie Wilmot, Assistant General Counsel, Suite 1232, Turlington Building, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400 and J. David Holder, Esquire, 387 Lakeside Drive, DeFuniak Springs, Florida 32435 this 6th day of **April**, 2015.



Gretchen Kelley Brantley, Clerk
Education Practices Commission