



Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

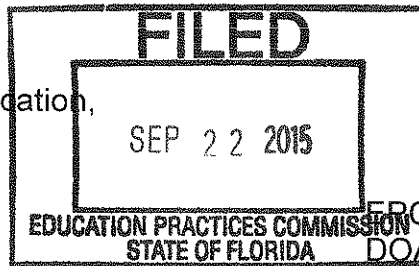
PAM STEWART
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

EDWARD THOMAS,

Respondent



ERC CASE N^o: 15-0070-RT

DOAH CASE N^o: 15-0954PL

INDEX N^o: **15-250-FOF**

PPS N^o: 123-1764

CERTIFICATE N^o: 739881

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 August 13, 2015, in Tallahassee, Florida, for consideration of the Recommended Order entered in this case by Lisa Shearer Nelson, Administrative Law Judge dated June 19, 2015. Respondent was 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 1-22), conclusions of law, (paragraphs 23-39), and the recommendation contained in the Recommended Order. A copy of the Recommended Order, attached to and made a part hereof, is hereby adopted in full and becomes the Final Order of the Education Practices Commission.

It is therefore **ORDERED** that:

1. The Respondent's Florida educator's certificate is hereby suspended for a period of 1 year from 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, he 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.

3. As part of the Recovery Network Program (RNP), Respondent is responsible for all costs associated with the evaluation, treatment, counseling, and testing required through their participation in the RNP, and shall:

A. Submit to an Evaluation relating to the issues cited in the Administrative Complaint as determined by the RNP and conducted by an RNP approved licensed provider and undergo any counseling or treatment as may be prescribed by said

professional. If, to fulfill this requirement, Respondent must now engage in such counseling, have the professional submit quarterly reports to the RNP. Respondent shall provide the RNP written verification from the treatment provider(s) of successful completion of the evaluation within sixty (60) days of issuance of the Final Order OR within sixty (60) days of the initial date of employment in a position requiring a Florida educator's certificate, whichever occurs later.

B. Provide written verification from an RNP approved licensed provider, to the degree that the treatment provider(s) may ethically predict, that at the time of the evaluation, the educator poses no threat to children and is capable of assuming the responsibilities of an educator.

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

DONE AND ORDERED, this 17th day of **September** 2015.


MARK S. STRAUSS, Presiding Officer

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Office of Professional Practices
Services

Bureau of Educator Certification

Superintendent
Calhoun County Schools
20859 E. Central Avenue,
Rm G-20
Blountstown, FL 32424-2264

Personnel Director
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1230 Apalachee Parkway
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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 Edward Thomas, 3557 Post Street, #1, Jacksonville, Florida 32205 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 22nd day of September, 2015.



Gretchen Kelley Brantley, Clerk
Education Practices Commission
