



Before the Education Practices Commission of the State of Florida

RICHARD CORCORAN,
Commissioner of Education,

Petitioner,

vs.

THOMAS LLOYD ALDEN,

Respondent.



EPC CASE No. 20-0278-RT
Index No. 21-293-FOF
DOAH CASE No. 20-4281PL
PPS No. 189-0675
CERTIFICATE No.: 1186313

Final Order

This matter was heard by a Teacher Hearing Panel of the Education Practices Commission pursuant to sections 1012.795, 1012.796 and 120.57(1), Florida Statutes, on September 21, 2021, in Altamonte Springs, Florida, for consideration of the Recommended Order entered on June 2, 2021, in this case by GARNETT W. CHISENHALL, Administrative Law Judge. Respondent was not present but was represented by counsel, Branden M. Vicari, Esquire. Petitioner was represented by Bonnie Wilmot, Esquire. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a copy of the Recommended Order. Attached as composite Exhibit B are Petitioner's Exception to Recommended Penalty and Motion to Increase Penalty, and Respondent's Response to Petitioner's Exceptions.

Ruling on Exceptions

1. For the reasons stated in the Petitioner's Exception to Recommended Penalty is

ACCEPTED.

Ruling on Motion to Increase Penalty

2. Petitioner's Motion to Increase Penalty is GRANTED.

Findings of Fact

3. The Panel hereby adopts the findings of fact in the Recommended Order. There is competent substantial evidence to support these findings of fact.

Conclusions of Law

4. The Education Practices Commission has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to Section 120.57(1), Florida Statutes, and Chapter 1012, Florida Statutes.

5. The Panel hereby adopts the conclusions of law in the Recommended Order.

Recommended Penalty

6. The Education Practices Commission rejects the penalty stated in the Recommended Order. The Board voted to accept the exception to the recommended penalty and increase the penalty. As justification, the Board cited the testimony of AJS, an assistant principal at the school where Respondent worked who testified that Respondent told him that he had what Respondent called a lapse of judgment that may have resulted in looseness of language (Tr.p.43, ln.15-20).

Penalty

Upon a complete review of the record in this case, it is therefore ORDERED that:

7. The Education Practices Commission issues a written **REPRIMAND** to Respondent.

8. Respondent shall be placed on one employment year of probation with the

conditions that during that period, the Respondent 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. Additional Education due during probationary period.

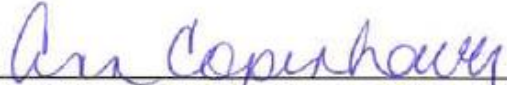
1. Provide a certified college transcript to verify successful (a grade of "pass" or a letter grade no lower than a "B") completion of 3 hours of college level course-work in the area of Educational Ethics, which may be taken online;

OR

2. Provide proof of completion of two (2) NEA micro-credentials in elevating the profession through educator ethics.

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

DONE AND ORDERED, this 14th day of October, 2021.

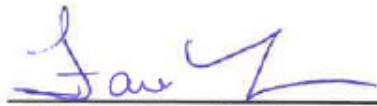

ANN COPENHAVER, Presiding Officer

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: Thomas Lloyd Alden, 4301 North Dodge City, Beverly Hills, Florida 34465 and Branden M. Vicari, Esquire, Herdman & Sakellarides, P.A., 29605 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite #110, Clearwater, FL 33761, by Certified U.S. Mail; and by electronic mail to Bonnie Wilmot, Deputy General Counsel, bonnie.wilmot@fldoe.org; this 14th day of October, 2021.



Faith Lenzo, Clerk
Education Practices Commission

COPIES FURNISHED TO:

Office of Professional Practices Services

Bureau of Educator Certification

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