

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the	)	
	)	
Educator Certificate of	)	CONSENT ORDER OF
	)	SUSPENSION
Atrez Ranzio Flemings	)	
	)	
<u>Educator Certificate 252724</u>	)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 11, 2019. On March 26, 2019, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Atrez Ranzio Flemings concerning the pending action against his educator certificate 252724. After Mr. Flemings received the notice, he contacted the SCDE and agreed he would waive his right to a hearing and would enter into this Consent Order of Suspension of his educator certificate 252724 for a period of one year. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension of Mr. Flemings' educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2019, and ending on June 9, 2020.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Flemings holds a valid South Carolina professional educator certificate. He has over eight years of educator experience and has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Mr. Flemings was employed by the Greenville School District (District) as a teacher at Monarch Elementary School (School) and was assigned during the summer of 2018 as a Title I tutor at Miracle Hills Boys Shelter (Shelter).

During the summer of 2018, the District instituted an investigation of Mr. Flemings' working time sheet, which reported he worked at the Shelter on Monday, July 2nd, Tuesday, July 3rd, and Thursday July 4th. The District Director of Title I questioned the submitted hours since District employees were not expected to work that week due to the July 4th holiday. The investigation revealed there was no evidence supporting Mr. Flemings' assertion that he was working at the Shelter on the days in question, including video recordings from the Shelter which did not contain any video evidence of Mr. Flemings' presence. Staff from the Shelter also indicated Mr. Flemings was not at the

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s/AF Initial

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center during the week of July 2nd. Mr. Flemings maintained he was present during the recorded times; however, he chose to resign his position as a Title I tutor. During a subsequent meeting with District staff, Mr. Flemings requested the District accept his resignation so he could have the “freedom to move on.”

Mr. Flemings has agreed to waive his right to a hearing and to resolve this disciplinary matter by entering into an alternate resolution to the action against his educator certificate. Mr. Flemings does not make any specific admissions of fact, but wishes to resolve this matter with this Consent Order of Suspension. Mr. Flemings agreed that his educator’s certificate will be suspended for a period of one year. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Suspension with the terms set forth above.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2017); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2017). The State Board finds that the evidence presented demonstrates that Mr. Flemings did not provide an accurate accounting of his work hours and was not forthcoming with District personnel during the investigation. The State Board further finds that just cause exists for the suspension of Mr. Flemings’ educator certificate for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2019, and ending on June 9, 2020.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that the educator certificate of Atrez Ranzio Flemings, certificate 252724, is suspended for a period of one year, commencing on June 11, 2019, and ending on June 9, 2020.

If Mr. Flemings wishes to have his certificate reinstated at the conclusion of the period of suspension, he shall make a written request to the SCDE’s Office of Educator Services. Mr. Flemings shall be responsible for meeting all certification requirements in effect at the time he requests reinstatement and for the payment of any applicable reinstatement fees. The suspension of Mr. Flemings educator certificate shall be reported

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to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: s/Del-Gratia Jones
Del-Gratia Jones, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 11, 2019

I, Atrez Ranzio Flemings, SC Educator Certificate 252724, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of educator certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I understand the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Suspension are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on June 11, 2019. I also agree to not work in any certified capacity at a South Carolina public school during the term of my suspension. I understand the term 'public school' includes any public charter school. I understand this Consent Order will not become effective until approved by the State Board and, if not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the State Board to adjudicate this matter. If approved by the State Board, I give the SCDE permission to use my electronic signature in the style of "/S/ name" for required website publication.

s/Atrez Flemings
Atrez Ranzio Flemings

4/8/19
Date