

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation or)
Suspension of the Educator Certificate of)
Alexander Michael Stormer,)
Certificate 276717)
_____)

**CONSENT ORDER OF PERMANENT
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 9, 2015. On October 28, 2015, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice to Mr. Stormer, by regular and certified mail, informing him that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate. Mr. Stormer received the notice and contacted the SCDE Office of General Counsel on November 11, 2015. Mr. Stormer, informed the SCDE that he desired to waive his right to a hearing and enter into a Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of his South Carolina educator certificate 276717, effective December 9, 2015.

Alexander
Michael
Stormer
276717
AMS
Initial
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FINDINGS OF FACT

The State Board has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004) and S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004).

12/2/15
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On July 17, 2015, Mr. Stormer applied to the SCDE, Office of Educator Services for a South Carolina Educator Certificate. In August 2015, the SCDE, Office of Educator Services issued a South Carolina educator certificate to Mr. Stormer. Mr. Stormer did not indicate on his application for certification that his Georgia educator certificate was under investigation. On October 8, 2015, Mr. Stormer voluntarily surrendered his Georgia Educator certificate for alleged violations of the laws and rules and regulations governing the practice of certificate holders while he was employed as a high school teacher for the Atlanta Public Schools.

Mr. Stormer surrendered his Georgia Educator certificate as a result of an investigation into allegations of three incidents in March 2015 involving his failure to maintain a professional relationship with students. The first incident occurred on March 6, 2015, when Mr. Stormer was reported for allegedly injuring a student's arm when he moved the student who was seated in his desk through the classroom doorway. On March 10, 2015, it was reported that Mr. Stormer allegedly pushed a female student. The third incident occurred on March 14, 2015, when Mr. Stormer was reported for allegedly sending inappropriate text messages to a female student.

On May 19, 2015, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (Commission) sent a letter to Mr. Stormer informing him of the investigation into his certification. During the investigation by the Commission, Mr. Stormer filed an application for an educator certificate with the SCDE, Office of Educator Services on July 17, 2015. This application contains the following question in section VI: "Have you ever had a teaching certificate revoked, suspended, or denied by a state; or is there any action pending against your certificate or application in another state? (Academic ineligibility is not considered grounds for denial of a certificate). If Yes, you must state where your certificate was revoked, suspended, denied or where action is pending against your certificate or application." Mr. Stormer indicated, "No" to the question.

On October 28, 2015, the SCDE sent notice to Mr. Stormer, via regular and certified mail, informing him that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate. Mr. Stormer received the notice and contacted the SCDE Office of General Counsel on November 11, 2015. Mr. Stormer, informed the SCDE that he desired to waive his right to a hearing and enter into a Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of his educator certificate 276717, effective December 9, 2015. Mr. Stormer no longer desires to be employed in public education.

Mr. Stormer agrees to the permanent surrender of his South Carolina educator certificate 276717 subject to the following conditions: (1) his educator certificate will become permanently invalid and permanently revoked immediately upon the approval by the State Board of the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender; (2) he has waived his right to a hearing and understands that the terms set forth are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and (3) he understands that the permanent surrender of his educator certificate will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse as a permanent voluntary surrender and permanent revocation.

Alexander Michael Stormer 276717 <u>AMR</u> Initial Here 12/2/15 Date

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct and dishonesty. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). 2 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58(13) (2011) provides, in part, that the State Board has the legal authority to deny, revoke, or suspend a certificate for obtaining or attempting to obtain a certificate by fraudulent means or through misrepresentation of material facts. The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE demonstrates that Mr. Stormer engaged in unprofessional conduct and dishonesty as a result of his inappropriate behavior and his inappropriate communications with students and his failure to disclose the

pending investigation involving his Georgia educator certificate on his application for South Carolina Educator Certification.

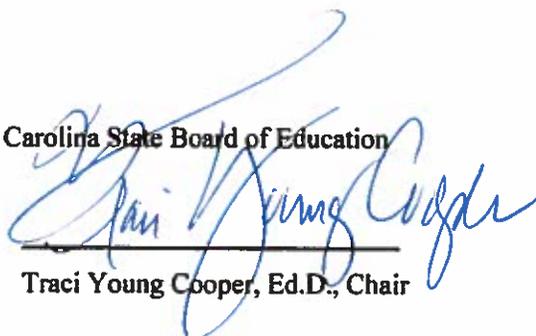
The evidence presented supports the State Board's decision to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender with respect to educator certificate 276717, issued under the name of Alexander Michael Stormer, and to permanently revoke and render permanently invalid Mr. Stormer's educator certificate, effective December 9, 2015.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the educator certificate of Alexander Michael Stormer, certificate 276717, is hereby declared permanently invalid and permanently revoked. The permanent voluntary surrender and revocation of the educator certificate of Alexander Michael Stormer, certificate 276717, shall be reported 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:


Traci Young Cooper, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

December 9, 2015

I, Alexander Michael Stormer, S.C. Educator Certificate 276717, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of education certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I understand that the terms set forth in this Consent Agreement are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily permanently surrender my educator certificate to the South Carolina State Board of Education. I hereby acknowledge that this permanent surrender shall have the same effect as a permanent revocation of my certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all rights, title and privilege of holding myself out as and being able to practice as an educator in the public schools in the State of South Carolina. I agree that I will not serve or be employed as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, band teacher, coach, or volunteer in any other position in a public school in the State of South Carolina. I agree to the proposed Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on December 9, 2015.


Alexander Michael Stormer

12/9/15
Date