

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation)
)
of the Educator Certificate of)
)
Christopher Lamont Guy,)
)
Certificate 263523)
_____)

**ORDER OF
PERMANENT REVOCATION**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 10, 2015. On June 17, 2015, Mr. Guy was arrested and charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor, 2nd degree, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-655(B) (Supp. 2014). On June 23, 2015, the Chair of the State Board summarily suspended Mr. Guy's educator certificate, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), § 59-5-10 (2004), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA. On June 24, 2015, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice to Mr. Guy informing him that his educator certificate had been summarily suspended and that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. On July 17, 2015, Mr. Guy received the notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. Mr. Guy did not request a hearing in this matter and is in default.

After considering the evidence presented concerning Mr. Guy's unprofessional conduct, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Mr. Guy's educator certificate 263523, effective November 10, 2015.

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

Mr. Guy holds a professional South Carolina educator certificate and has over seven (7) years of teaching experience. Mr. Guy had been employed with the Beaufort County School District (District) since 2013 as a teacher at Lady's Island Middle School (School). On June 17, 2015, Mr. Guy was arrested and charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor, 2nd

degree, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-655(B) (Supp. 2014). On June 18, 2015, Mr. Guy signed a settlement agreement with the District resigning his position immediately.

On June 17, 2015, the Beaufort Police Department (Police Department) responded to a complaint from Mr. Guy's wife that Mr. Guy had inappropriately touched her daughter (from a prior relationship). Later that same day, Mr. Guy voluntarily entered the Police Department. After being read his Miranda rights by the officers, Mr. Guy admitted entering his step-daughter's bedroom when he believed she was asleep and touching her on the back and buttocks under her clothing on more than one occasion. He also admitted that he "groped" and was "kissing on her" and that during the most recent incident, he placed her hand on his penis. Mr. Guy was subsequently arrested and charged with Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor, 2nd degree, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-655(B) (Supp. 2014).

In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the SCDE requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend Mr. Guy's educator certificate as a result of his arrest and his unprofessional conduct. On June 23, 2015, the Chair of the State Board summarily suspended Mr. Guy's educator certificate.

On June 24, 2015, the SCDE sent notice to Mr. Guy that his South Carolina educator certificate was summarily suspended. The notice also informed Mr. Guy that the State Board would meet to make a determination regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate and his right to a hearing. The SCDE sent the notice by regular and certified mail, return receipt requested. On July 17, 2015, Mr. Guy received the notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. Mr. Guy did not request a hearing in this matter and is in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Mr. Guy's educator certificate 263523, effective November 10, 2015.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). Just cause includes, inter alia, unprofessional conduct, immorality, conduct involving moral turpitude, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S. C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2011). The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE demonstrates that Mr. Guy engaged in unprofessional conduct, immorality, conduct involving moral turpitude, and exhibited evident

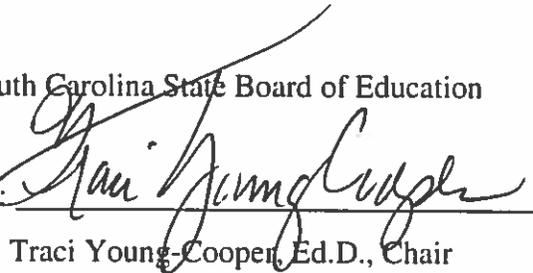
unfitness for position for which employed as a result of his inappropriate sexual contact with a minor.

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to permanently revoke educator certificate 263523 issued in the name of Christopher Lamont Guy. The permanent revocation of Mr. Guy's educator certificate 263523 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

November 10, 2015