

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Voluntary)
Surrender of the Educator)
Certificate of Kenneth A. Williams,)
Certificate 235859)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 14, 2018, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), § 59-5-10 (2004), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Kenneth A. Williams, certificate 235859, as a result of his arrest on April 26, 2016. Mr. Williams currently has charges pending on 5 counts of disseminating obscene material to a minor, 3 counts of criminal sexual conduct in the 3rd degree, 3 counts of sexual battery with student 16 or 17 years of age, 1 count of criminal sexual conduct with a minor in the 2nd degree, 1 count of sexual exploitation of a minor, and 1 count of criminal solicitation of a minor. The SCDE sent notice to Mr. Williams on May 2, 2016. After he received the notice, Mr. Williams denied the allegations contained in the letter and contacted the SCDE to request a hearing. Prior to the scheduling of a hearing in this matter, agreed to waive his right to a hearing and enter into this Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of his educator certificate. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board has agreed to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender for Kenneth A. Williams, effective August 14, 2018.

Kenneth
Andrew
Williams
235859

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7-5-18
Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Kenneth A. Williams holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over eight years of teaching experience. He has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board.

Mr. Williams was employed by the York County School District Three (District) as an Assistant Principal at Northwestern High School (School). On April 21, 2016, Mr. Williams was placed on administrative leave after allegations arose that he was engaged

in an inappropriate relationship with a student. Mr. Williams was subsequently arrested on April 26, 2016. On June 6, 2016, Mr. Williams resigned from his position with the District. His criminal charges are still pending.

On April 27, 2016, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2004), § 59-5-10 (2004), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the SCDE requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend the educator certificate of Kenneth A. Williams, certificate 235859, as a result of his arrest on April 26, 2016. Mr. Williams currently has charges pending on 5 counts of disseminating obscene materials to a minor, 3 counts of criminal sexual conduct in the 3rd degree, 3 counts of sexual battery with student 16 or 17 years of age, 1 count of criminal sexual conduct with a minor in the 2nd degree, 1 count of sexual exploitation of a minor, and 1 count of criminal solicitation of a minor. The criminal charges are still pending in a court of law.

Mr. Williams agrees to the surrender of his South Carolina educator certificate 235859 subject to the following conditions: (1) his educator certificate will become invalid immediately upon the approval by the State Board of the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender; (2) he has waived his right to notice and 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 surrender of his educator certificate will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse.

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.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004); 2 S.C. Code Regs 43-58 (2011). The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE, which is strenuously denied by Mr. Williams, would be sufficient to support its contention that Mr. Williams engaged in unprofessional conduct as a result of his inappropriate relationship with a student. The evidence presented supports the State Board’s decision to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of educator certificate 235859, issued under the name of Kenneth Andrew Williams, effective August 14, 2018.

Kenneth
A.
Williams
235859



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Date

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the educator certificate of Kenneth A. Williams, certificate 235859, is hereby declared invalid. The voluntary surrender of the educator certificate of Kenneth A. Williams, certificate 235859 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.

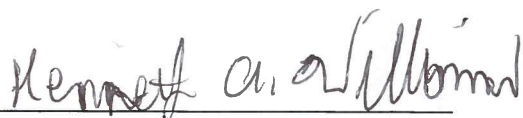
South Carolina State Board of Education

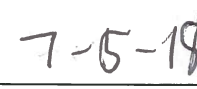
By:


Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 14, 2018

I, Kenneth A. Williams, S.C. Educator Certificate 235859, 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 of Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily surrender my educator certificate to the South Carolina State Board of Education. I hereby acknowledge that this voluntary surrender shall have the same effect as a revocation of my certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, 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 as a volunteer or be employed as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, band teacher, coach, or in any other position in a public school in the State of South Carolina. I agree to the proposed Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on August 14, 2018. I understand this 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.


Kenneth A. Williams


Date