

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Tyran Quante Veal
Certificate 276196

Order of Permanent Revocation

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 13, 2022. On September 25, 2019, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Tyran Quante Veal a notice via regular and certified mail of his right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate. Mr. Veal timely requested a hearing and such was held on September 27, 2022. This matter is properly before the State Board pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2020) and referred to a hearing officer pursuant to S.C. Code ann. § 59-5-70 (2020). After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Mr. Veal's educator certificate 276196, effective December 13, 2022.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Veal holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over four years of teaching experience. On September 24, 2019, the State Board summarily suspended Mr. Veal's teaching certificate due to his arrest for possession with intent to distribute marijuana and possession with intent to distribute within proximity of a school. At the time of the arrest, Mr. Veal was a teacher at A.C. Flora High School with Richland County School District One (District).

On September 11, 2019, Mr. Veal called law enforcement to the parking lot of a District elementary school. He alleged he was robbed by two men, who took one of his cell phones, a handgun, cash, and school bags. Mr. Veal was able to assist law enforcement in tracking the men with his second cell phone, which was not taken during the incident. After the men were apprehended, a full investigation resulted in Mr. Veal's arrest. The criminal charges were dismissed after Mr. Veal completed a pre-trial intervention program.

The evidence discovered during the law enforcement investigation was made available to the SCDE and introduced as evidence during the hearing. This included text messages, pictures, and videos from both of Mr. Veal's cell phones. The communications demonstrated several inappropriate interactions with students. This included discussions of selling marijuana, gambling, profanity, and sexual propositions. Mr. Veal also regularly called students out of class at their request, and had a student living with him at one time.

Although Mr. Veal did request a hearing, he informed the SCDE he had moved and would not attend the hearing. He did not withdraw his request for a hearing and he was notified of the time and location for the hearing. The Hearing Officer found the evidence demonstrated that Mr. Veal was distributing marijuana within proximity to a school on a school day, and that he engaged in numerous inappropriate communications with high school students. Further, the Hearing Officer stated that Mr. Veal's lack of boundaries jeopardized the safety, health, and welfare of students. A permanent revocation of his teaching certification was recommended by the Hearing Officer.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Mr. Veal's educator certificate 276196, effective December 13, 2022.

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 (2020). Just cause includes "incompetence; willful neglect of duty; willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education; unprofessional conduct; drunkenness; cruelty; crime against the law of this State or the United States; immorality; any conduct involving moral turpitude; dishonesty; evident unfitness for position for which employed; or sale or possession of narcotics." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021).

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its determination that just cause exists to permanently revoke education certificate 276196, issued in the name of Tyran Quante Veal, effective December 13, 2022. The permanent revocation of

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Mr. Veal's educator certificate 276196 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 Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton
Crystal Stapleton, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
December 13, 2022