

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Isaiah Singleton
Certificate 313162

**Singleton Isaiah Order of Summary
Suspension**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on July 21, 2023. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2020), § 59-5-10 (2020), 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 Isaiah Singleton, educator certificate 313162, as a result of his arrest felony hit and run, S.C. Code Ann. § 56-05-1210(A)(3).

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Mr. Singleton may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students, who may be under his instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Singleton's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Singleton of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Singleton holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over four years of educator experience. At the time of his arrest, Mr. Singleton was an educator at Brookdale Elementary with the Orangeburg School District (District).

On or about May 8, 2023, Mr. Singleton was arrested for a felony hit and run, S.C. Code Ann. § 56-05-1210(A)(3). It was alleged that Mr. Singleton was driving in excess of the posted speed limit and drove off the right side of the roadway. He struck a pedestrian that was walking

along the roadway, causing his vehicle to overturn. The pedestrian sustained fatal injuries and Mr. Singleton allegedly left the scene of the accident. Mr. Singleton was arrested and did not report the arrest to the District. On July 20, 2023, the District was able to verify the arrest and reported the incident to the SCDE.

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Mr. Singleton may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students who may be under his instruction, and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Singleton's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Singleton of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

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 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); 24 S.C. Code Regs. 43-58 (2021). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2020), "If the agency finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action, and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action." Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-5-10 (2020) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of the allegations of Mr. Singleton's unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United States, and evident unfitness for the position for which employed, due to his arrest for felony hit and run, there is reason to believe Mr. Singleton may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students and emergency action is required.

Accordingly, the educator certificate of Isaiah Singleton, certificate number 313162, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved.

Isaiah Singleton, Certificate 313162
ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION
July 21, 2023
Page 3

The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Singleton of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D.
Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
July 21, 2023