

**BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

In the Matter of the  
Disciplinary Action of the  
Educator Certificate of  
Zachary Aaron Parish  
Certificate 293779

**ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION**

**SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on February 4, 2025. On November 4, 2024, and December 11, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Zachary Aaron Parish a notice via regular and certified mail of his right to a hearing regarding the possible permanent revocation of his South Carolina educator certificate. Mr. Parish received the notice on December 16, 2024, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. On January 13, 2025, the SCDE sent Mr. Parish notice of the presentation to the State Board on February 4, 2025. He has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Zachary Aaron Parish's educator certificate 293779, effective February 4, 2025.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

Mr. Parish holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over two years of teaching experience. On August 13, 2021, the State Board summarily suspended Mr. Parish's educator certification due to his arrest for sexual exploitation of a minor. The criminal charge has been dismissed.

On July 30, 2021, a seventeen year old student reported Mr. Parish to law enforcement for requesting nude photos over social media. At the time of the incident, Mr. Parish was a teacher at Chester High School (School) with the Chester County School District. The student alleged she met Mr. Parish at a School soccer game, knew he was a teacher at the School, and communicated with him through social media.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Mr. Parish's educator certificate 293779, effective February 4, 2025.

### **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 "unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United State, evident unfitness for position for which employed, and sale or possession of narcotics." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that Mr. Parish engaged in unprofessional conduct, immorality, any conduct involving moral turpitude, and crime against the law of this State or the United States due to inappropriate communication with a student.

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to permanently revoke education certificate 293779, issued in the name of Zachary Aaron Parish, effective February 4, 2025. The permanent revocation of Mr. Parish's educator certificate 293779 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

Rita Allison  
Rita Allison, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina  
February 4, 2025