

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Reed Germaine Messer
Certificate 275968

ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 3, 2026. On November 26, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Reed Germaine Messer a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible permanent revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. Messer received the notice on December 12, 2024, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. She 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 Reed Germaine Messer's educator certificate 275968, effective March 3, 2026.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Messer holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has over ten (10) years of teaching experience. On May 2, 2023, the SCDE learned that Ms. Messer had been arrested for 22 counts of criminal sexual conduct with a minor. On May 5, 2023, Ms. Messer's South Carolina educator certificate 275968 was summarily suspended awaiting disposition of the charges against her. Ms. Messer ultimately pled guilty to two counts of rape in the 3rd degree, a Class B violent felony. The crimes constitute a violent felony under 11 Del. C. § 4201(c)(1) in violation of 14 Del. C. § 1218(b)(1)(b); constitute a felony committed against a child in violation of 14 Del. C. § 1218(b)(1)(c); and constitute a felony sexual offense in violation of 14 Del. C. § 1218(b)(1)(d). Her Delaware educator certificate was subsequently revoked by the Delaware Department of Education.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Reed Germaine Messer's educator certificate 275968, effective March 3, 2026.

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 (2025); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that Ms. Messer engaged in unprofessional conduct, immorality, any conduct involving moral turpitude, and crime against the law of this State or the United States due to pleading guilty in the state of Delaware to two counts of rape in the third degree, and her subsequent revocation by the Delaware Department of Education.

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to permanently revoke education certificate 275968, issued in the name of Reed Germaine Messer, effective March 3, 2026. The permanent revocation of Messer's educator certificate 275968 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty (30) days from the date of this order.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/David M. Mathis
David M. Mathis, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
March 3, 2026