

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Emily Tannery
Certificate 305484

ORDER OF REVOCATION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 3, 2026. On October 2, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Emily Tannery a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension or revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate. The SCDE has verified Ms. Tannery's address, the certified letter was returned unclaimed, and the letter sent via regular mail has not been returned. On October 31, 2024, the SCDE informed Ms. Tannery via regular mail that the State Board would meet on December 3, 2024, or as soon thereafter as is feasible, to consider action against her her educator certification. Under the South Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure 5(b), Emily Tannery has been given fair notice of constitutional due process. Ms. Tannery has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Tannery's educator certificate 305484, effective February 3, 2026.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Tannery holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has less than one (1) year of teaching experience. On December 7, 2022, the SCDE learned that Ms. Tannery was arrested for contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The criminal charge stemmed from allegations that Ms. Tannery engaged in inappropriate communications with a student. Ms. Tannery ultimately pled guilty to unlawful communication (telephone), S.C. Code Ann. § 16-17-430 (A), a misdemeanor. The indictment read, "[t]he Defendant did have telephone communications of an inappropriate and suggestive nature." She received a sentence of time served (1 day).

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to revoke Ms. Tannery's educator certificate 305484, effective February 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 "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 (2025); S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021).

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to revoke education certificate 305484, issued in the name of Ms. Tannery, effective February 3, 2026. Ms. Tannery has the right to reapply for certification after three (3) years. Ms. Tannery shall, pursuant to State Board Rule BBCDB, be subject to a character and fitness review before the State Board with employment information during the period of certificate surrender; community service records; letters of support from a current or prospective school district employer, if applicable; letters of support from community leaders; and SLED and FBI background checks. Ms. Tannery shall also pay all applicable fees for certification, if any. The revocation of Emily Tannery's educator certificate 305484 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