
Ashley Wright
Revocation/Voluntary Surrender

The Background:

Prior History: On February 8, 2019, the Board staff presented a recommendation of a suspension concurrent with Ms. Wright's criminal probation sentence. The Board voted for a harsher license action, seeking revocation of Ms. Wright's educator license.

Facts: On September 21, 2017, Ms. Wright was arrested on three counts of identity theft. Ms. Wright used victims' personal information to apply for credit cards online, online loans from a cash advance business, and made multiple purchases totaling approximately \$2,990.00. Victims were all family members of Ms. Wright. Knox County Schools placed Ms. Wright on leave with pay from September 28, 2017 to October 19, 2017. Ms. Wright was then reassigned to another school in the district. Ms. Wright pled guilty to five counts of identity theft (felonies) and one misdemeanor theft. On July 19, 2018, Ms. Wright was sentenced to 2 years' probation, and 48 hours of jail time from August 3 to August 5, 2018 by the Knox County Criminal Court.

Applicable Rule: 0520-02-03-.09(1)(a) defines Conviction as Means a judgment entered by a court upon a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo contendere, a finding of guilt by a jury or the court notwithstanding any pending appeal or habeas corpus proceeding arising from the judgment. Conviction includes, but is not limited to, a conviction by a federal court or military tribunal, including a court-martial conducted by the armed forces of the United States, and a conviction, whether upon a plea of guilty, a plea of nolo contendere, or a finding of guilt by a jury or the court, in any other state of the United States, other jurisdiction, or other country. Conviction also includes a plea taken in conjunction with § 40-35-313 or its equivalent in any other jurisdiction.

0520-02-03-.09(1)(k) defines Good Cause as Conduct that calls into question the fitness of an educator to hold a license including, but not limited to, noncompliance with security guidelines for Tennessee Comprehensive Assessment Program (TCAP) or successor tests pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-1-607, failure to report licensure actions under parts (3), (4), or (5), or violation of any provision in the Teacher Code of Ethics as contained in T.C.A. §§ 49-5-1001, *et seq.*

0520-02-03-.09(1)(q) defines Revocation as The nullification of an educator's license for a period of at least five (5) years, after which an educator may petition the State Board for reinstatement.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(a) provides that the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for conviction of a felony.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(g) provides the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for other good cause as defined in subparagraph (1)(k) of this rule.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(h) provides the State Board of Education may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator's license for any offense contained in paragraphs (4) and/or (5) of this rule.

0520-02-03-.09(5)(a)(1) provides upon receiving notification that an individual has been convicted of a felony, the board may revoke or permanently revoke the convicted individual's educator license.

0520-02-03-.09(5)(a)(8) provides An individual holding an educator's license who is found to have violated the teacher code of ethics shall be subject to a disciplinary action within the range of a suspension for no less than one (1) year up to and including revocation.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board's intent to **revoke** her educator license based upon these findings. Respondent received said notice.

Board Action Consistency Considerations:

N/A

The Recommendation:

The Board staff recommends that the Board approve the signed Consent Order submitted by the Respondent based upon the facts and applicable rule noted above.