
Michael Tolliver
Denial

The Background:

Prior History: N/A

Facts: On September 10, 2021, Mr. Tolliver submitted an application for renewal of a Tennessee educator permit. Mr. Tolliver answered “yes” to the personal affirmation statement regarding previous drug possession convictions. Requests were made to Mr. Tolliver to provide further detail and documentation relating to his affirmative response. No further verifiable information was submitted by Mr. Tolliver.

Applicable Rule: 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, 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(3)(b) provides that the Board may revoke, suspend, formally reprimand, or refuse to issue or renew an educator’s license for conviction of possession of illegal drugs.

0520-02-03-.09(3)(i) provides that the Board 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)(j) 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 the rule.

0520-02-03-.09(6)(a)(1) provides, in part, that if an individual indicates an affirmative answer on the personal affirmation section of the application for a permit, the individual shall show cause why the permit should be issued despite the individual’s affirmative answers.

0520-02-03-.09(6)(a)(2) provides that there shall be a rebuttable presumption that any individual applying for a permit who has committed an offense that would subject him or her to discipline under this rule if the individual had a license, shall be presumed ineligible to receive a permit.

Status: Respondent was notified by certified mail of the Board’s intent to **deny his application** to renew his Tennessee educator permit based upon these findings. Respondent was also

provided Board policy with respect to requesting permission to speak on his behalf regarding his Tennessee educator permit application. Respondent received said notice

Board Action Consistency Considerations:

N/A

The Recommendation:

The Board staff recommends that Mr. Tolliver's Tennessee educator permit application be denied.