

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

IN THE MATTER OF:

RICHARD L. TYSON

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License No. 000211995

CONSENT ORDER

By agreement of the Tennessee State Board of Education ("Board") and Richard L. Tyson ("Respondent"), this matter is disposed of, pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3) as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. At all times pertinent hereto, Respondent was a licensed educator in the State of Tennessee.
2. On May 10, 2018, Respondent was found guilty by a jury of two counts of sexual battery without consent (felonies), pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-505, and two counts of solicitation of a minor (felonies), pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-528, in Houston County, Tennessee.
3. On August 13, 2018, in Houston County, Tennessee, Respondent was sentenced to two years jail time for each sexual battery without consent count, running concurrently, with nine months to be served in jail and the remaining 1 year and 3 months to be served as probation. Respondent was sentenced to probation for three years for each solicitation count. One was ordered to be concurrent with the sexual battery without consent counts and the other consecutive to the other solicitation count. Respondent was also ordered to be on the sex offender registry, not eligible for diversion, and to continue sex therapy.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's conduct constitutes grounds for permanent revocation of his license pursuant to Board Rule 0520-02-03-.09(3)(a), (3)(c), (3)(g), (3)(h), (5)(a)(1), (5)(a)(5), (5)(a)(6), and (5)(a)(8).

ORDER

The Tennessee State Board of Education hereby orders, and Respondent agrees to the following:

1. Respondent hereby **voluntarily surrenders** his Tennessee educator license.
2. While Respondent's license is revoked pursuant to this surrender, Respondent has agreed that he will not serve as a volunteer or be employed, directly or indirectly, as an educator, paraprofessional, aide, substitute teacher, or in any other position in a public school in the State of Tennessee.
3. As a condition of the surrender, Respondent agrees not to apply for restoration of his Tennessee educator license.
4. Approval of this Consent Order by the Board shall in no way be construed as condoning the Respondent's conduct and shall not be construed as a waiver of any of the lawful rights possessed

by the Board.

5. This Consent Order shall not become effective until approved by the Board.
6. Respondent must always answer affirmatively to the question on licensure applications regarding having been suspended, denied, or revoked.
7. Respondent acknowledges that he has read this Consent Order and that he understands its contents.
8. Respondent understands that there is a right to a hearing in this matter, and Respondent knowingly and voluntarily waives such right by entering into this Consent Order.
9. Respondent understands that this Consent Order will not become effective until approved by the Board.
10. Respondent further understands and agrees that the Board shall have the authority to review the investigative file and all relevant evidence in considering this Consent Order.
11. Respondent further understands that this Consent Order, once approved, shall constitute a public record that may be disseminated as a disciplinary action of the Board, which includes, but is not limited to reporting this action to the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Educator and Certification ("NASDTEC") and posting on the Board website pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 49-1-302(p), (q).
12. If this Consent Order is not approved by the Board, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding, or prejudice the ability of the Board to adjudicate this matter.
13. The Respondent hereby consents to the terms and sanctions contained herein.

CONSENTED TO:

Richard L. Tyson
 Richard L. Tyson
 Respondent

Sworn to and subscribed
 before me this 24th day
 of July, 2020.

Vena Fredericks
 NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires: 11/26/2022



Approved by the Board this 6th day of November, 2020.

TENNESSEE STATE BOARD OF
EDUCATION

BY:



Lillian Hartgrove, Chair

ATTEST:



Sara Morrison, Executive Director

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of November, 2020.



NOTARY PUBLIC

After entry, a copy of this Order will be mailed to Respondent's last known address:

Richard L. Tyson
516 Paula Dr.
Clarksville, TN 37042

345 Lea Ferrell Rd.
Stewart, TN 37175

c/o Christopher G. Clark
101 North Third St.
Clarksville, TN 37040