

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Voluntary)
Surrender of the Educator)
Certificate of Rafael D. Traynum)
Certificate 174441)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 14, 2018. On September 9, 2015, the Chair of the State Board summarily suspended the educator certificate of Rafael D. Traynum. The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent the summary suspension order and a notice letter to Mr. Traynum regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina Educator Certificate. On September 20, 2016, Mr. Traynum pled guilty to the criminal charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Other criminal charges were dismissed. Mr. Traynum has left the teaching profession and desires to surrender his educator certificate. Mr. Traynum has agreed to waive his right to a hearing and enter into the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender. After considering the evidence provided, the State Board has agreed to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of the educator certificate of Rafael D. Traynum, certificate 174441, effective August 14, 2018.

Rafael D.
Traynum
174441



Initial
Here



Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Traynum holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over twenty-one years of educator experience. He has no prior record of disciplinary action with the State Board. Mr. Traynum was employed by Anderson County School District Two (District) as a social studies teacher and girls' basketball coach at Belton Honea Path High School (School). The District terminated Mr. Traynum's employment on November 16, 2015.

On or about September 3, 2015, Rafael D. Traynum was arrested and charged with Sexual Battery with a Student 16 or 17 years of age, no aggravated force or coercion, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-755 (Supp. 2010) and Criminal Sexual Conduct 2nd degree with a Minor, Under the age of 16 in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 16-3-655 (B) (2) (Supp. 2012). On September 20, 2016, Mr. Traynum pled

guilty to the charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Mr. Traynum's previous criminal charges were dismissed.

Mr. Traynum agrees to the surrender of his South Carolina educator certificate 174441 subject to the following conditions: (1) his educator certificate will become invalid immediately upon the approval by the State Board of the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender; (2) he has waived his right to notice and a hearing and understands that the terms set forth are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and (3) he understands that the voluntary surrender of his educator certificate will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (Supp. 2016). Just cause includes unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this state, and evident unfitness for position for which employed. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016). The State Board finds the evidence presented demonstrates that Mr. Traynum engaged in unprofessional conduct, demonstrated an evident unfitness for position for which he was employed, and pled guilty to a crime against the law of this state on the charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The evidence presented supports the State Board's decision to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of educator certificate 174441, issued under the name of Rafael D. Traynum, effective August 14, 2018.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the educator certificate of Rafael D. Traynum, certificate 174441, is hereby declared invalid. The voluntary surrender of the educator certificate of Rafael D. Traynum, certificate 174441 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

Rafael D.
Traynum
174441



Initial
Here



Date

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

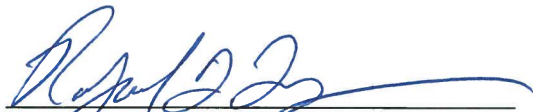
South Carolina State Board of Education

By:


Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 14, 2018

I, Rafael D. Traynum, S.C. Educator Certificate 174441, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of educator certificate holders and that I have waived my right to a hearing in this matter. I understand that the terms set forth in this Consent Agreement of Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily surrender my educator certificate to the South Carolina State Board of Education. I hereby acknowledge that this voluntary surrender shall have the same effect as a revocation of my educator certificate. I knowingly forfeit and relinquish all right, title and privilege of holding myself out as and being able to practice as an educator in the public schools in the State of South Carolina. I agree to the proposed Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on August 14, 2018.


Rafael D. Traynum


Date