

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Permanent)
Voluntary Surrender and Revocation)
of the Educator Certificate of)
William Avery Moulton-Fowler,)
Certificate 281588)

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PERMANENT
VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on June 12, 2018. On or about March 28, 2018, William Avery was arrested and charged with two felony counts of third degree sexual exploitation of a minor, S.C. Code Ann. §16-15-410 (2017). On May 8, 2018, the Chair of the State Board summarily suspended Mr. Moulton-Fowler's educator certificate. On May 8, 2018, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent the summary suspension order and a notice letter to Mr. Moulton-Fowler regarding the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina Educator Certificate and his right to a hearing. The notice letter also included the alternate resolution of a permanent voluntary surrender of his South Carolina educator certificate. After considering the evidence provided, the State Board has agreed to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender for William Avery Moulton-Fowler, certificate 281588, effective June 12, 2018.

William
Avery
Moulton-
Fowler
281588


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5-24-18
Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Moulton-Fowler holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate that was summarily suspended by the Chair of the State Board on May 8, 2018. Mr. Moulton-Fowler was the director of education for the Williamston Youth Academy (School). The School terminated Mr. Moulton-Fowler's employment after his arrest.

On or about March 26, 2018, the Greenville County Sherriff's Office charged Mr. Moulton-Fowler with two felony counts of third degree sexual exploitation of a minor, S.C. Code Ann. §16-15-410 (2017). The South Carolina Department of Social Services informed local law enforcement of allegations against Mr. Moulton-Fowler. During the subsequent investigation, law enforcement located pornographic video content involving children on Mr. Moulton-Fowler's phone. Mr. Moulton-Fowler's criminal charges are pending. In accepting the

Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender, Mr. Moulton-Fowler does not admit guilt to the criminal charges pending against him.

Mr. Moulton-Fowler has decided to waive his right to a hearing and to permanently surrender his South Carolina educator certificate. He agrees to the permanent surrender of his South Carolina educator certificate 281588 subject to the following conditions: (1) his educator certificate will become permanently invalid and permanently revoked immediately upon the approval by the State Board of the Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender; (2) he has waived his right to 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 permanent surrender of his educator certificate will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina and the NASDTEC Clearinghouse as a permanent voluntary surrender and permanent revocation.

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 (2017); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017). Just cause includes “unprofessional conduct.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2017); 2 S.C. Code Regs 43-58 (2017). The State Board finds that Mr. Moulton-Fowler, a South Carolina educator, reported for allegations of sexual exploitation of a minor, has committed acts of unprofessional conduct and that just cause exists to accept the permanent voluntary surrender of Mr. Moulton-Fowler’s South Carolina educator certificate.

Mr. Moulton-Fowler does not oppose and accepts the State Board’s decision to approve the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of his educator certificate 281588, issued under the name of William Avery Moulton-Fowler, and accepts the permanent revocation and permanent invalidation of his educator certificate, effective June 12, 2018.

Now, therefore, it is ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the educator certificate of William Avery Moulton-Fowler, certificate 281588, is hereby declared permanently invalid and permanently revoked. The permanent voluntary surrender and permanent revocation of the educator certificate of William Avery Moulton-Fowler certificate 281588, shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

William
Avery
Moulton-
Fowler
281588


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AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: Sharon Wall
Sharon Wall, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
June 12, 2018

I, William Avery Moulton-Fowler, S.C. Educator Certificate 281588, understand there has been an investigation concerning alleged violations of the laws and regulations governing the practice of education 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 Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review; and I hereby freely, knowingly and voluntarily permanently surrender my educator certificate to the South Carolina State Board of Education. I hereby acknowledge that this permanent surrender shall have the same effect as a permanent revocation of my 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 Permanent Voluntary Surrender, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Consent Order will be presented to the South Carolina State Board of Education on June 12, 2018. I understand this Order will not become effective until approved by the State Board and, if not approved, it shall not constitute an admission against interest in this proceeding or prejudice the right of the State Board to adjudicate this matter.

William Avery Moulton-Fowler
William Avery Moulton-Fowler

5-24-18
Date