

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Amy Haugh
Certificate 299170

ORDER OF PERMANENT REVOCATION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on October 10, 2023. On September 1, 2023, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent Amy Haugh a notice via regular and certified mail of her right to a hearing regarding the possible permanent revocation of her South Carolina educator certificate. Ms. Haugh received the notice on September 8, 2023, as evidenced by a signed postal receipt. She has not contacted the SCDE to request a hearing and is now in default. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Ms. Haugh's educator certificate 299170, effective October 10, 2023.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Haugh holds a suspended South Carolina educator certificate and has over eight years of teaching experience. At the time of her arrest, Ms. Haugh was teacher with the Greenville County School District (District). She resigned from the District on April 1, 2021.

On May 11, 2023, the State Board summarily suspended Ms. Haugh's educator certification due to her arrest on two felony counts of unlawful neglect of a child. The charges were not related to students. It was alleged that Ms. Haugh caused bodily harm to a minor in her custody and placed the minor in danger by exposing them to amphetamines.

During the time of the summary suspension, Ms. Haugh was arrested on other criminal charges. On December 15, 2022, Ms. Haugh pled guilty to the felony charges of intent to defraud the lottery and unlawful neglect of a child.

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to permanently revoke Ms. Haugh's educator certificate 299170, effective October 10, 2023.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2020). Just cause includes "unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United State, evident unfitness for position for which employed, and sale or possession of narcotics." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2020); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2021). The State Board finds that Ms. Haugh engaged in unprofessional conduct, immorality, any conduct involving moral turpitude, and crime against the law of this State or the United States due to the felony counts of unlawful neglect of a child and intent to defraud the lottery.

The State Board finds that the evidence presented by the SCDE supports its decision that just cause exists to permanently revoke education certificate 299170, issued in the name of Amy Haugh, effective October 10, 2023. The permanent revocation of Ms. Haugh's educator certificate 299170 shall be reported to the NASDTEC Clearinghouse and all South Carolina school districts within thirty days from the date of this order.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D.
Crystal F. Stapleton, Ed.D., Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
October 10, 2023