

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Andre Laquan Weathers
Certificate 281599

**CONSENT ORDER OF
PERMANENT VOLUNTARY SURRENDER**

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 3, 2024. On March 28, 2024, and July 31, 2024, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) sent notice via regular and certified mail, return receipt requested, to Andre Laquan Weathers concerning pending action against certificate 281599. Mr. Weathers received the notice and contacted the SCDE to discuss an alternate resolution. He has agreed to the voluntary surrender of his educator certification. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender of Mr. Weathers' educator certificate 281599, effective September 3, 2024.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Weathers held an adjunct South Carolina educator certificate. He has no prior educator experience. During the relevant time period, Mr. Weathers worked as non-certified employee for the Marion County School District (District).

On or about October 28, 2019, Mr. Weathers was arrested for sexual exploitation of a minor. The allegations involved inappropriate communications with a student in the District. The criminal charges were dismissed on March 8, 2022. Mr. Weathers denies the allegations but has chosen not to request a hearing. He has retired and does not wish to return to teaching.

Andre Laquan Weathers
281599
s/AW
Initial
8/26/24
Date

After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to accept the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender of Mr. Weathers, educator certificate 281599, effective September 3, 2024.

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 (2016). Just cause includes “unprofessional conduct and evident unfitness for position for which employed.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2016); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58 (2016). Accordingly, the evidence presented supports the State Board’s determination that just cause exists to revoke the educator certificate of Andre Laquan Weathers, educator certificate 281599, effective September 3, 2024.

Now, therefore it is hereby ordered that the Consent Order of Permanent Voluntary Surrender is accepted and the revocation of the educator certificate of Andre Laquan Weathers, certificate 281599, 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/David C. O’Shields
David C. O’Shields, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
September 3, 2024

(Signature page attached)

Andre Laquan Weathers
281599
s/AW
Initial
8/26/24
Date

I, Andre Laquan Weathers, SC Educator Certificate 281599, 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 the terms set forth in this Consent Order of Voluntary Surrender are not subject to reconsideration, collateral attack or judicial review. I agree to the terms of this Consent Order of Voluntary Suspension, consisting of three pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board for approval on September 3, 2024. I hereby acknowledge that this surrender shall have the same effect as a 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 understand the term 'public school' includes any public charter school. 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. If approved by the State Board, I give the SCDE permission to use my electronic signature in the style of "s/name" for required website publication.

s/Andre Laquan Weathers
Andre Laquan Weathers

8/26/24
Date

Andre Laquan Weathers
281599
s/AW
Initial
8/26/24
Date