

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the
Disciplinary Action of the
Educator Certificate of
Jonathan Andrew Monk
Certificate 283068

ORDER OF SUMMARY SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on August 3, 2026. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2020), § 59-5-10 (2020), and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) requested that the Chair of the State Board summarily suspend the expired educator certificate of Jonathan Andrew Monk, educator certificate 283068, as a result of his arrest for the following: employ, use, persuade, induce, entice, or coerce a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions [18 U.S.C. § 2251(a)]; sexual exploitation of minors through the production, distribution, or advertisement of sexually explicit visual depictions [18 U.S.C. § 2251(e)]; receiving, distributing, or reproducing child pornography transported in interstate or foreign commerce [18 U.S.C. § 2252(a)(2)]; possessing material containing child pornography that has been transported or produced using interstate or foreign commerce [18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B)]; and mailing, transporting, receiving, or distributing child pornography [18 U.S.C. 2252A(b)(1)].

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of these allegations of misconduct, Mr. Monk may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students, who may be under his instruction and that emergency action is required. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Monk's expired educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Monk of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his expired educator certificate.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Monk holds an expired South Carolina educator certificate and has over one (1) year of educator experience. At the time of the incident, Mr. Monk was not employed by a South Carolina public school.

On or about July 28, 2026, Mr. Monk was arrested for the following: employ, use, persuade, induce, entice, or coerce a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions [18 U.S.C. § 2251(a)]; sexual exploitation of minors through the production, distribution, or advertisement of sexually explicit visual depictions [18 U.S.C. § 2251(e)]; receiving, distributing, or reproducing child pornography transported in interstate or foreign commerce [18 U.S.C. § 2252(a)(2)]; possessing material containing child pornography that has been transported or produced using interstate or foreign commerce [18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B)]; and mailing, transporting, receiving, or distributing child pornography [18 U.S.C. 2252A(b)(1)].

The SCDE has reason to believe that, due to the serious nature of this allegation of misconduct, Mr. Monk may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students who may be under his instruction, and that emergency action is required. Summary suspension of Mr. Monk's expired educator certificate would prevent him from the reapplication or renewal of his educator certificate. After considering the evidence presented by the SCDE, the Chair of the State Board finds that Mr. Monk's educator certificate shall be summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Monk of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2020); S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2025). 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 (2025); 24 S.C. Code Regs.

43-58 (2021). In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 1-23-370(c) (2020), “If the agency finds that the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action and incorporates a finding to that effect in its order, summary suspension of a license may be ordered pending proceedings for revocation or other action.” Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-5-10 (2020) and State Board Rule of Governance BBABA, the Chair of the State Board finds that as a result of the allegations of Mr. Monk’s unprofessional conduct, crime against the law of this State or the United States, and evident unfitness for the position for which employed, due to his arrest on the following: employ, use, persuade, induce, entice, or coerce a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing visual depictions [18 U.S.C. § 2251(a)]; sexual exploitation of minors through the production, distribution, or advertisement of sexually explicit visual depictions [18 U.S.C. § 2251(e)]; receiving, distributing, or reproducing child pornography transported in interstate or foreign commerce [18 U.S.C. § 2252(a)(2)]; possessing material containing child pornography that has been transported or produced using interstate or foreign commerce [18 U.S.C. § 2252A(a)(5)(B)]; and mailing, transporting, receiving, or distributing child pornography [18 U.S.C. 2252A(b)(1)], there is reason to believe Mr. Monk may pose a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of students and emergency action is required.

Accordingly, the educator certificate of Jonathan Andrew Monk, certificate number 283068, is summarily suspended until a due process hearing is held and/or this matter is otherwise resolved. The SCDE is directed to serve notice on Mr. Monk of the summary suspension, as well as the possible suspension or revocation of his educator certificate.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

South Carolina Board of Education

s/David M. Mathis
David M. Mathis, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
August 3, 2026