1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 4 In the Matter of the DEFAULT ORDER OF 5) Educator License of REVOCATION OF STUDENT TEACHING) 6 CLEARANCE & RIGHT TO APPPLY 7 LARRY J. GUTIERREZ 8 9 10 On December 23, 2021, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Larry J. Gutierrez, 11 12 (Gutierrez) in which the Commission charged him with Gross Neglect of Duty and /or Gross Unfitness. The Notice was sent via U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail 13 Receipt 7021 0350 0000 8183 8060 to the address on file with the Commission. The 14 Notice designated the Commission file as the record for purposes of proving a prima 15 facie case. The Certified Mail receipt was returned to the Commission signed. The 16 regular first class mail was not returned to the Commission, and assumed delivered. The 17 Notice of Opportunity of Hearing, dated December 23, 2021, and signed by Anthony 18 Rosilez, Executive Director, stated: 19 "IF A REOUEST FOR HEARING IS NOT RECEIVED WITHIN THIS 21-DAY 20 PERIOD, YOUR RIGHT TO A HEARING SHALL BE CONSIDERED WAIVED 21 UNLESS YOUR FAILURE TO REQUEST A HEARING WAS BEYOND YOUR 22 REASONABLE CONTROL. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST A HEARING, 23 WITHDRAW YOUR REQUEST FOR HEARING, OR IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR 24 AT A HEARING, OR NOTIFY THE COMMISSION THAT YOU WILL NOT 25 APPEAR AT HEARING, THE COMMISSION WILL ADOPT AN ORDER OF 26 DEFAULT WHICH MAY INCLUDE THE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF 27 28 YOUR LICENSE OR OTHER DISCIPLINE." 29 On May 11, 2022, TSPC Investigative staff sent Gutierrez a final email regarding a 30 settlement, and sent a deadline for Gutierrez to respond before 5PM on May 16, 2022. 31 The email indicated that failure to respond would result in the case moving into default. 32 As of June 3, 2022 TSPC received no response from Gutierrez. The Commission, 33 therefore, finds Gutierrez to be in default and enters the following findings of fact, 34 conclusions of law, and final order, based on the files and records of the Commission 35 concerning this matter. 36 37

38

FINDING OF FACT 1 1. The Commission received Gutierrez's application for background clearance to 2 begin student teaching. Gutierrez applied to the Commission on September 22, 3 2020, and the application is currently pending. During all relevant times, 4 Gutierrez was employed by the Jefferson County School District (JCSD). 5 6 2. On December 2, 2020, TSPC received a cross-report from the Oregon 7 Department of Human Services – Child Welfare (DHS) alleging misconduct by 8 Larry J. Gutierrez. The report alleges that Gutierrez contacted and solicited a 9 minor female on social media. It was alleged that Gutierrez requested topless 10 photos of the juvenile and asked to "meet up" to engage in sexual activity. 11 12 3. An investigation conducted by the JCSD, the Madras Police Department (MPD) 13 and the Oregon State Police (OSP) determined the following: 14 15 • On April 10, 2020, Madras High School (MHS) staff received a message on 16 the school's Facebook page that Gutierrez had engaged in inappropriate 17 behavior with a minor aged female (MJ) on social media. 18 • The message sent to the MHS Facebook account provided screenshots of 19 conversations between Gutierrez and MJ. 20 • In the messages between Gutierrez and MJ, she tells him that she is 14 years 21 old. 22 • In the messages between Gutierrez and MJ, Gutierrez requested nude photos 23 from her. 24 • In the messages, Gutierrez requested that MJ meet up with him for sex. 25 26 • The conversation with MJ is highly sexual and inappropriate. A copy of the conversation with MJ is documented below. 27 Police identified and located MJ. 28 • Gutierrez interviewed with police detectives on April 13, 2020. 29

knew to be 14 years old, over social media.

30

31

During that interview, Gutierrez admitted to conversing with MJ, whom he

Gutierrez told police that he had tried meeting and dating women over the age 1 2 of 18 via online dating, but that it hadn't worked. 3 Gutierrez reported to police that based on not having any luck dating, Gutierrez began viewing pornography for masturbatory purposes. 4 Gutierrez stated that the pornography viewing caused him to start having 5 fantasies about engaging in physical and emotional relationships with underage juvenile females. 7 Gutierrez reported that he had an "addiction to dating" and tried to stop, but 8 that it had been difficult to do so. 9 Gutierrez told police that he believed he had an addiction to sex. 10 The police showed Gutierrez copies of the messages between he and MJ. 11 Gutierrez reported that he had no intention of meeting up with MJ or any 12 13 female. 14 Gutierrez reported that he had requested a photo of MJ's nude chest only to confirm that the person he was talking to was the same person who had sent 15 him an earlier photo. 16 17 On April 15, 2021, Gutierrez's residence computers and phones were searched by police. No child pornography of "evidentiary value" was found. 18 The Jefferson and Crook County District Attorney's Office reviewed this 19 matter and declined to pursue criminal charges. 20 According to JCSD records, Gutierrez declined to participate in their 21 22 investigation or in a pre-termination hearing. JCSD terminated your employment on May 22, 2021. Gutierrez did not appeal 23 the decision. 24 25 The following is a copy of the narrative of your online social media 26 conversation with MJ: 27 28 "Hookup? With me?" 29 MJ: "Whu not" 30 Gutierrez:

MJ:

31

"Okay:) when do u wanna meet"

1	Gutierrez:	"you down?"
2	MJ:	"Yeah. I'm up for it. What did you have in mind"?
3	Gutierrez:	"First take a picture with thumbs up"
4	<u>MJ:</u>	*Sends generic picture of female teenage with a thumbs up
5		hand motion to Gutierrez.
6	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"Cute".
7	<u>MJ:</u>	"Thank you <3"
8	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"Can we do your place"
9	<u>MJ:</u>	"No I'm sorry"
10	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"why"
11	<u>MJ:</u>	"Cuz my brother is here. Can we chill at yo place"?
12	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"Sure"
13	<u>MJ:</u>	"Sweet :) Gimmie address?"
14	Gutierrez:	"How are you gonna come here"
15	<u>MJ:</u>	"Small town ill just bike over"
16	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"what about your parents"
17	<u>MJ:</u>	"I'll just say I'm going for a bike ride. I ride my bike all the
18		time."
19	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"How about I pick you up"
20	<u>MJ:</u>	"Okay where would u pick me up? I can't text without Wi-Fi
21		my phone is shitty"
22	Gutierrez:	"Give me your address"
23	<u>MJ:</u>	"No way I cant have you pick me up in front of my place!"
24	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"I will pick you up nearby".
25	<u>MJ:</u>	"Hmm can you pick me up at the baseball field near the post
26		office?"
27	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"No way"
28	MJ:	"okay where then?"
29	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"A block away from your house"
30	<u>MJ:</u>	"Aight well I live at *address omitted by MJ"
31	<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"how old are you again"
32	MJ:	"14 lmao we been over this"

1		<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"Have you ever had sex before"	
2		<u>MJ:</u>	"Mm I had a boyfriend and we fooled around a bit but	
3			never had sex for real"	
4		Gutierrez:	"Can you show me what you have"	
5		<u>MJ:</u>	"I'm sorry my body is kinda smallI don't like doing nudes"	
6		Gutierrez:	"It cannot be that small lol"	
7		<u>MJ:</u>	*MJ sends another generic photo of a juvenile female in a t-	
8			shirt to Gutierrez.	
9		Gutierrez:	"what about chest"	
10		<u>MJ:</u>	"That is my chest I have v small boobs"	
11		<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"I cannot see :)"	
12		<u>MJ:</u>	"Yeah it's me in a shirt lol. Where are we gonna meet? Can I	
13			pls just skate over"	
14		Gutierrez:	"Take off shirt"	
15		<u>MJ:</u>	"Noooooooooo that'll make me uncomfy" Pics are lame. I	
16			sent a pic!"	
17		<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"I wanna see. I cannot see your chest with black shirt on".	
18		<u>MJ:</u>	"I will show in personPics can be saved"	
19		Gutierrez:	"Show me right now"	
20		<u>MJ:</u>	"No nude pics!!! That's final".	
21		<u>Gutierrez:</u>	"Just the chest"	
22		<u>MJ:</u>	"NooooooOOOOOO :("	
23		Gutierrez :	"Ok".	
24				
25	4.	On July 12, 2021, C	commission investigative staff interviewed Gutierrez. During	
26		the interview, Gutierrez told TPSC investigative staff that all of his statements		
27		provided previously to law enforcement were truthful and accurate. Gutierrez		
28		reported that he initially thought that MJ was 18 years old based on a prior		
29		conversation with her and then later confirmed she was 14. Gutierrez		
30		acknowledged that he had asked for nude photos of MJ's chest, but that was		
31		because he sensed '	"something was wrong with the scenario" and indicated to	
32		Commission invest	igative staff that he wanted to use the photos to verify who he	

was talking to. Gutierrez admitted to asking MJ to "hook up" with him but stated that in his Mexican culture "hook up" means "something different." Gutierrez reported he was just seeking a friendship with MJ. Gutierrez was asked what he meant when he asked MJ to "show me what you have" and he admitted that he was referring to having MJ show him her genitals. Gutierrez denied ever soliciting or conversing with any other minors online and stated he had been lonely at the time this occurred and reported he suffered from "immense anxiety and depression." Gutierrez told Commission investigative staff that he declined to participate in the JCSD pre-termination hearing and investigation because he didn't think staff would believe him. Gutierrez reported that he felt the school would side with the police and wouldn't listen to his side of the story. Gutierrez reported that he hoped to return to the classroom and complete his degree in the future and stated that he was open to receiving additional training in areas such as boundaries and professional communication. Gutierrez also indicated that he now stays away from all online communication and only seeks out friendships with people whose age can be verified.

17 18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

1

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct described above constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) (Recognize the worth and dignity of all persons and respect for each individual), OAR 584-020-0010(5) (Use professional judgment), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0035(1)(b) (Refrain from exploiting professional relationships with any student for personal gain, or in support of persons or issues), OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(A) (Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a student's personal life), and OAR 584-020-0035(1)(c)(D) (Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in conduct and conversations at all times).

30 31

The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based

32 upon ORS 342.175.

1 FINAL ORDER 2 The Commission hereby revokes Gutierrez's teaching clearance and his right to 3 apply for licensure/clearance for one (1) year. 4 IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 19 day of September, 2022. 5 6 7 TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 8 Dr. Anthony Rosilez, Executive Director 9 10 11 NOTICE OF APPEAL OR RIGHTS 12 13 YOU ARE ENTITLED TO JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW MAY BE OBTAINED BY FILING A PETITION FOR REVIEW WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE 14 15 SERVICE OF THIS ORDER. JUDICIAL REVIEW IS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF 16 ORS 183.482 TO THE OREGON COURT OF APPEALS.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing notice of final order, certified by me as such, by mailing U.S. First Class Mail and U.S. Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested, addressed to:

Larry J. Gutierrez 366 SW M Street Apt. A10 Madras, OR 97741

Dated this ____day of September, 2022.

Selicity Icefire

Investigative Assistant