## 1 BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION 2 OF THE STATE OF OREGON 3 In the Matter of the ))) STIPULATION OF FACTS AND **Educator License of** FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION 5 LARRY L. MORENE 6 7 8 On March 12, 2022, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission 9 (Commission) received an internal complaint alleging possible professional misconduct 10 on the part of licensed educator, Larry L. Morene (Morene). The complaint alleges that 11 while working in the capacity of Assistant Coach for the Klamath County School District 12 (KCSD) you used your KCSD procurement card (credit card) to purchase alcohol while 13 on a wrestling trip for Henley High School (HHS). 14 After review of the matters alleged, Morene and the Commission agree that their 15 respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to 16 certain facts and the imposition of a (30) day suspension of Morene's Oregon educator's 17 license as well as a two (2) year period of probation. 18 This Order sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the 19 sanction to be imposed. Morene stipulates that there are sufficient facts contained in the 20 Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact and conclusions of law set 21 forth below. In entering into this stipulation, Morene waives the right to a hearing to 22 contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law and order set forth below. 23 By signing below, Morene acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to 24 the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest 25 the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally 26 waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of 27 Facts and Final Order of Suspension and Probation (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) 28 this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon 29 request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and 30 subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not 31 approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Morene nor the 32 Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this Stipulation and 33 Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force or 34 duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of

the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promise or representation has

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been made to induce him to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with regard to his rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

## STIPULATION OF FACTS

The Commission has licensed Morene since August 10, 1992. Morene holds a
Professional Teaching License with an endorsement in Health (PK-12), and
Physical Education (PK-12) valid from December 3, 2020 through January 9,
2026. During all relevant times, Morene was employed by the Klamath County
School District (KCSD).

 2. On March 12, 2022, the Commission received a School District Misconduct Report from the Greg Thede, Superintendent of the KCSD. The report indicated Morene may have committed acts which constitute gross neglect of duty and / or gross unfitness. The report alleged that Morene used his KCSD procurement card (credit card) to purchase alcohol while on a wrestling trip for Henley High School (HHS) while he was working in the capacity of an assistant wrestling coach and trip chaperone.

3. Investigation by the KCSD and TSPC substantiated the following:

  Morene is employed as a teacher at Bonanza High School (BHS) as a teacher and work as an Assistant Coach for the HHS wrestling team. Both schools are in the KCSD.

  On February 22-25, 2023, Morene attended the State of Oregon high school wrestling tournament with his HHS team in Portland, Oregon.

During the tournament, Morene and the team stayed at the Marriott
Courtyard Portland Downtown/Convention Center Hotel. There was a
significant snowstorm that created doubt about whether the tournament
would be held, and that prevented anyone from leaving the hotel.

1 · On the evening of February 22, 2023, coaches gathered for dinner at the on-2 site restaurant. No students were present. Morene purchased a beer with 3 dinner for himself and a colleague. That purchase was charged to his room. 4 which was a violation of the KCSD policy. When interviewed by the District Morene admitted that he had charged the 5 6 drinks to his room accidentally and reimbursed the District for the cost. 7 The KCSD found Morene in violation of the district's Drug Free Workplace 8 Policy which requires no use of drugs or alcohol including while on a school 9 sponsored or school-approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip 10 or athletic event. Morene had previously been disciplined in 2011 for 11 consuming alcohol at the end of a wrestling meet. 12 On August 4, 2023, , the KCSD issued him a letter of reprimand for this matter and placed him on unpaid leave for 2 days. Additionally, Morene was 13 14 barred from coaching in the KCSD and was not allowed to chaperone any 15 overnight KCSD school trips. 16 17 4. On December 21, 2023, Morene participated in a TSPC investigative interview. 18 The interview was via video conference and was conducted in the presence of 19 Morene's attorney, Margaret Olney. During the interview, Morene admitted to 20 purchasing the beer and acknowledged that doing so was a violation of policy and 21 TSPC rules. Morene reported that it was an inadvertent mistake – he dinner felt 22 like a gathering of adult friends stuck in a snowstorm having a beer with dinner. 23 He reported that he was not intoxicated, no students were present and that 24 another adult was responsible for supervising the athletes. Morene expressed 25 remorse for the conduct and was clear that he should have known better. Morene 26 is-now retired from the KCSD. 27 IT IS 80 STIPUL 28 9/8/24 29 30 Morene

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1	255 Ggg 9/21/24
2	Cristina Edgar, Professional Practices Director Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  Date
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5	CONCLUSION OF LAW
6 7 8 9 10 11	The conduct described in sections two (2) and (3) 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(5) (Use professional judgment), OAR 584-020-0025(2)(e) (Using district lawful and reasonable rules and regulations), and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(g) (Appearing on duty or at any district-sponsored activity while under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance).
13 14	The Commission's authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon
15	ORS 342.175.
16	ORDER
17	The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and
18	conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a suspension of Morene's Oregon
19	educator license for a period of thirty (30) days and a two (2) year period of probation
20	upon reinstatement.
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22	Issued and dated this day of October, 2024.
23	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
24	STATE OF OREGON
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26	By an
27	Melissa Goff, Interim Executive Director  Pro Fift Naugy Co TSPC Chair