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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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Thomas Glenn Griffith's conviction for Sex Abuse III violates the Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance of Oregon Educators, OAR 584-20-040 and constitutes gross neglect of duty. Under ORS 342.175 the Commission is required to revoke a license for conviction of this crime.

OPINION

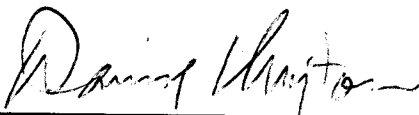
The victims in this case were elementary students in the Salem-Keizer School District. Griffith had contact with the students as the elementary physical education teacher. Griffith acknowledge that between September 1994 and May 1995 he touched four female students' breasts and one male student's penis. Any sexual contact with students constitutes gross neglect of duty under TSPC Standards for Competent and Ethical Performance. The court also determined that Mr. Griffith's actions constituted Official Misconduct II. These findings above are grounds for revoking Mr. Griffith's Oregon Teaching License even if the requirement of revocation under ORS 342.175 did not apply.

ORDER

The Commission accepts the surrender and revokes the Oregon Standard Teaching License #281831 valid for physical education and health education issued from January 9, 1995 through March 6, 2000, for conviction of the crime of Sex Abuse III, Harassment and Official Misconduct II.

Dated this 27th day of September, 1996.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By: 

David V. Myton, Executive Secretary

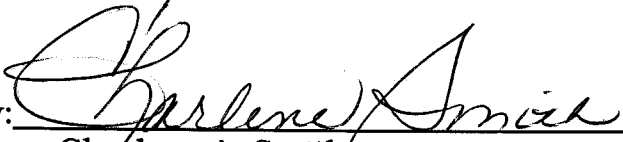
DVM/cs

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

2 I hereby certify that I served the foregoing order by mailing a true copy thereof
3 certified by me as such by U.S. Certified Mail with Return Receipt Requested to
4 Attorney for Thomas G. Griffith:

5 WALTER J TODD
6 835 LIBERTY STREET NE
7 SALEM OR 97301

8 Dated this 27th day of September 1996.

9 By: 
10 Charlene A. Smith
11 Secretary to the Commission