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**BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON**

In the Matter of the )  
Teaching License of )  
PAMELA A. CHURCH (WOOD) ) **STIPULATION OF FACTS AND  
FINAL ORDER OF SUSPENSION  
OF LICENSE**

On or about February 10, 2010, April 28, 2010, and May 4, 2010, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (Commission) received a report from the Superintendent of the Nyssa School District indicating that Pamela A. Church (Wood) (hereinafter "Church") may have failed to maintain professional boundaries and to report a possible case of child abuse in a timely manner.

After review of the matters alleged, Church and the Commission agree that their respective interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and the imposition of a 30 day suspension of Church's Standard Teaching License. By signing this Stipulation and Final Order, Church does not agree that the evidence supports all the Commission's Stipulation of Facts and Conclusions of Law. Nonetheless, Church understands that the Commission will rely upon the Stipulation of Facts to suspend her license and waives her right to appeal the suspension of her license.

By signing below, Church acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to the following: (i) she has been fully advised of her rights to notice and a hearing to contest the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final Order of Suspension of License (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public document and disclosed to the public upon request to the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Church nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) she has fully read this

1 Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) she voluntarily, without  
2 any force or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance  
3 and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) she states that no promise or  
4 representation has been made to induce her to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and  
5 (vii) she has consulted with an attorney regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and  
6 has been fully advised with regard to her rights thereto, or waives any and all rights to  
7 consult with an attorney prior to entering into this Stipulation and Final Order and  
8 issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

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### STIPULATION OF FACTS

- 10 1. The Commission has licensed Church as a teacher in Oregon since November 20,  
11 1981. Church's current Standard Teaching License, with an endorsement in Basic  
12 Physical Education and Standard Social Studies, issued on April 6, 2006, is pending  
13 renewal as of April 6, 2009. During all relevant times, Church was employed by the  
14 Nyssa School District.
- 15 2. District students have come to Church's home on occasion for social or community  
16 events. Students participating in these events have had parental permission to be  
17 there.
- 18 3. On or about April 19, 2010, a female student in the district disclosed to Church that  
19 she was cutting herself and was potentially suicidal. Church conducted a suicide  
20 assessment and believing the student not to be at risk for suicide or additional injury  
21 counseled the student to speak to her parents about her condition and gave the  
22 student time to do that. Church did not refer the student to a counselor; call the  
23 parents, law enforcement or DHS.
- 24 4. Around the same time this female student expressed to her mother that she wanted  
25 to stay at Church's home. The student spent the night at Church's home. The  
26 following day Church left the student alone at her home while she went to work.  
27 When approached by school officials regarding the student's wellbeing and potential  
28 for committing suicide, Church responded that she had checked in with the student  
29 and that "*she didn't have a plan.*"

- 1 5. On or about May 1, 2010, Church allowed students to enter her home while she was
- 2 out of state to clean her home. Without Church's knowledge, the students spent the
- 3 night at Church's home without any adult supervision.
- 4 6. On May 15, 2002 the Nyssa School District warned Church about fraternizing with
- 5 students and discouraged slumber parties, sleepovers, or having students stay
- 6 overnight at her home unless Church was the legal guardian of that student.

7 IT IS SO STIPULATED:

8	<u>Pamela A. Church</u>	<u>7-13-11</u>
9		
10	Pamela A. Church	Date
11	<u>Victoria Chamberlain</u>	<u>7-22-11</u>
12		
13	Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director	Date
14	Teacher Standards and Practices Commission	

15 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

16 Church did not immediately report her concerns of potential child abuse as described in

17 paragraph 3 above. This conduct constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS

18 342.175(1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use*

19 *professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-

20 0035(1)(c)(A) (*Not demonstrating or expressing professionally inappropriate interest in a*

21 *student's personal life*) and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(s) (*Failing to report child abuse pursuant*

22 *to ORS 419B.010*).

23 Church allowed students to enter her home while she was out of state affording them the

24 opportunity to spend the night at her home without adult supervision as described in paragraph

25 5 above. This conduct constitutes gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175 (1)(b); OAR

26 584-020-0040(n) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5) (*Use of professional judgment*);

27 OAR 584-020-0020(2)(d) (*Skill in the supervision of students*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o)

28 as it incorporates OAR 584-0035(1)(c)(D) (*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with*

29 *students in conduct and conversations at all times*).


1 Church socialized with middle school students at her home. This conduct constitutes  
2 gross neglect of duty in violation of ORS 342.175 (1)(b); OAR 584-020-0040(n) as it  
3 incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(5)(*Use of professional judgment*); OAR 584-020-  
4 0020(2)(d)(*Skill in the supervision of students*); and OAR 584-020-0040(4)(o) as it  
5 incorporates OAR 584-0035(1)(c)(D)(*Honoring appropriate adult boundaries with students in*  
6 *conduct and conversations at all times*).

7 **ORDER**

8 The Commission adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and  
9 conclusions of law, and based thereon, imposes a 30 day suspension of Pamela A.  
10 Church's Standard Teaching License.

11 Issued and dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2011.

12 **TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION**  
13 **STATE OF OREGON**

14 By   
15 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director  
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