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

In the Matter of the Teaching
License of:
ORDER OF SUSPENSION
PAUL ALLEN SKONES

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ORDER OF SUSPENSION

7 On or about December 2, 1997, the Teacher Standards and 8 Practices Commission (the "Commission") issued a Notice 9 Opportunity for Hearing to Paul Allen Skones ("Skones") in which the Commission proposed to suspend or revoke his teaching license 10 or otherwise impose discipline under ORS 342.177 based upon certain 11 12 conduct that occurred during his teaching tenure and his criminal 13 conviction for Attempted Kidnapping II. The Commission and Skones have now reviewed the matters alleged and agree that their 14 respective interests, together with the public interest, are best 15 16 served by a stipulation to certain facts and the imposition of a six (6) month suspension, four (4) years' probation and the 17 imposition of certain conditions for reinstatement of Skones' 18 19 This agreement sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the sanctions to be imposed. In entering 20 into this Stipulation, Skones waives his right to a hearing to 21 22 contest any of the findings set forth below.

23 FINDINGS OF FACT

24 Skones agrees and stipulates that evidence in the record exists 25 to support the following Findings of Fact by the Commission:

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- 1 1. Skones holds a standard teaching license with a music 2 endorsement that expires on December 14, 1999.
- 3 2. During the 1996-97 school year, Skones was employed as a
- 4 music teacher at Marshfield High School in the Coos Bay School
- 5 District.

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- 6 3. On December 9, 1996, Skones was arrested for assaulting
- 7 his wife in Coos Bay, Oregon. A Restraining Order was issued
- 8 against him on April 7, 1997 restraining him from having contact
- 9 with his wife.
- 10 4. On April 10, 1997, the Coos Bay School District placed
- 11 Skones on administrative leave for failure to report for his
- 12 teaching duties on April 8-10, 1997 and for his failure to provide
- 13 any notice to the District of his absence. Skones was placed on
- 14 leave without pay by the District on April 22, 1997.
- 5. On April 14, 1997, Skones was arrested for violating the
- 16 Restraining Order.
- 17 6. On April 19, 1997, Skones was arrested and charged with
- 18 Contempt of Court (violating the Restraining Order), Burglary I,
- 19 Menacing and Kidnapping II. The charges were based on allegations
- 20 that he entered his estranged wife's home, threatened her with a
- 21 hammer, and tried to force her to accompany him against her will.
- 22 Ultimately, on June 19, 1997, Skones pled guilty to the charge of
- 23 Attempted Kidnapping II, a felony.
- 7. Skones was sentenced to 30 days in jail, 60 months
- 25 probation and a fine of \$5,967.
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1 8. On June 12, 1997, Skones resigned his teaching position with the Coos Bay School District. 2 Skones enters into this Stipulation of Facts with the 3 knowledge that TSPC will adopt an Order of Suspension and place him 4 on three (4) years' Probation and impose additional conditions for 5 the reinstatement of his license. This Stipulation is contingent 6 upon the approval and adoption of the Order by the Commission. 8 the Commission does not adopt this Order, neither Skones nor the Commission are bound by these stipulations and he retains all rights to a hearing on the allegations. 10 11 IT IS SO STIPULATED: 12 13 Paul Allen Skones 14 15 16 Myton, Executive Secretary David V. Teacher Standards and Practices 17 Commission 18 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW 19 The conduct described in the Findings of Fact 4 constitutes 20 gross neglect of duty as that term is defined under ORS 342.175(1) 21 The conduct described in the other 22 and OAR 584-20-040(4). paragraphs in the Findings of Fact constitute gross unfitness as 23 that term is defined in ORS 342.175(1) and OAR 584-20-040(5). 24

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1 ORDER

2 BASED ON THE FOREGOING STIPULATIONS, IT IS ORDERED:

3 1. The teaching license of Skones is suspended for a period of six (6)

4 months commencing from June 11, 1998.

5 2. The Commission shall place Skones on probation for four (4) years

from the date of this Order. While on probation, Skones shall:

7 a. Conduct himself as a law abiding citizen and notify TSPC

within 30 (thirty) days if he is arrested or charged with any

9 crime;

10 b. Provide documentation required by TSPC, including submission

to a psychological evaluation by a mutually agreeable

psychologist, so that TSPC can ensure he is not a danger to

himself or others;

14 c. Comply with the terms of the sentence imposed for his felony

15 conviction; and

d. Abide by all Commission requirements, including but not

limited to, those articulated in OAR 584, Division 20.

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1	Violation of any terms of probation shall constitute a basis for the
2	Commission to revoke Skones' license, after first providing to Skones
3	notice and an opportunity for hearing.
4	DATED this <u>15</u> day of June 1998.
5	TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION
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7	By: Land Myton 1/17/98
8	David V. Myton, Executive Director Approved as to Form:
9	10.
10	Margaret Olney Date
11	Attorney for Skones
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